

LESSON PLAN

JESUS RIDES INTO JERUSALEM

Luke 19:28-44; Matthew 21:1-11

Lesson Memory Verse: Revelation 17:14b “ He is Lord of lords, and King of kings...”

Lesson Aim: To teach that Jesus Christ is the King of kings and, therefore, we should humble ourselves before Him and do what He says.

Lesson Plan: Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

KEY (for Action): There is a story of a good king who lived in Persia many years ago. He loved the people he ruled and wanted to know how they lived and what their problems were. Sometimes he would go to their homes dressed in the clothes of a workingman or of a beggar. No one realized he was their king when he went in those clothes.

One time he went to a cellar where a very poor man lived. He ate the food that this poor man ate and was very kind to him. Then he left. Later, he returned with his royal robes and told the poor man that he was his king.

The poor man was very surprised, but the king was surprised, too. The king thought the poor man would ask for some gift or for some favor, but he did not. Instead he was very humble and said, “You left your beautiful palace to visit me in this dark cellar. You visited me and brought joy to my heart. To others you have given rich gifts, but **to me you have given yourself!** What a wonderful answer. This man loved his king, not his gifts.

Today we are going to hear a story about another good King. Some people loved Him and some people hated Him, but He loved all of them. But first let me read our memory verse so you can hear how great this King is.

He (for Authority): Read the portion of Revelation 17:14, which says, “He is Lord of lords, and King of kings.” Then tell your class that this is speaking of Jesus Christ. When Jesus came the first time few people realized that He was God, their Creator, and the Creator of all things. He was the most important person that ever walked on this earth, yet few knew who He was. When He comes back to earth, He will come with all His followers and with a great army of angels. Everyone will know that He is the “Lord of lords, and King of kings.” At that time He will rule all the nations of the world. All kings, lords and important people will bow before Him and obey His commands. They will honor Him as their King.

He will be a kind and loving King and the people will respect Him and be thankful that He is their King. They will worship Him as their God and will obey His laws. There will be very little disobedience, but He will deal with it quickly and fairly so that sin does not spread. The world will be a place of peace. There will be no wars. People and animals will enjoy the company of each other. They will treat each other with respect and love. There will be plenty of good food so no one needs to be hungry. Sickness and death will be rare. The earth will be filled with joy and satisfying pleasures. This is what it will be like when Jesus Christ comes back to the earth to rule as the Lord of lords, and King of kings.

SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word. In our story today we will see that Jesus enters Jerusalem as the King of the Jews, but the leaders rejected Him as their King. Nevertheless, someday He will come again and this time they will accept Him as their King. Then He will become the King of all nations.

I. City - Luke 19:28

Jesus came to Jerusalem, the capital city of the Jews, to show them that He was their King. They had to decide whether or not they would receive Him as their King or reject Him.

WE: We also have to make a decision about Jesus Christ. He wants us to receive Him as our Savior and King (John 1:12). Will you receive Him or reject Him as your Savior and King?

II. Command - Luke 19:29-31; Matthew 21:1-3

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Jesus sent two disciples ahead to get a colt for Him to ride on into Jerusalem. When the owners would ask, "Why are you loosing the colt?" they were to say, "The Lord has need of it." They obeyed Him.

WE: We have many commands from Jesus in the Bible. Can you name any of them? Do you obey them?

III. Colt - Luke 19:32-35; Matthew 21:4-7

The disciples brought the colt to Jesus. It had never been ridden before, but it was ready to carry Jesus into Jerusalem. The followers of Jesus were ready to declare to the city that Jesus Christ, their King, had come. He would ride into Jerusalem on a donkey colt, which is what Zechariah 9:9 said He would do.

WE: We must be ready to tell friends and neighbors that Jesus, our Savior, has come. Are you ready?

IV. Crowd - Luke 19:36-38; Matthew 21:8-9

The followers of Jesus put their garments on the colt for Him to sit on and spread their clothes on the road for His colt to walk on. They also cut palm branches and laid them on the road. Their clothes and branches made a royal road for Jesus as He approached Jerusalem. This showed their humility and submission to Jesus as their King.

WE: What have we done for Jesus to show our humility and submission to Him? First, we must accept Him as our Savior; then, we must obey whatever He says to us in the Bible.

As Jesus came closer to Jerusalem, many more people joined the crowd that was around Jesus. They blessed Him for the mighty works they had seen Him do. They said they wanted Him to be their King. They asked for God's blessings of peace and glory. They cried, "Hosanna," which means, "Save now." They showed that they believed Jesus was the King promised by Zechariah (9:9) in the Old Testament.

WE: We need to believe that Jesus Christ can save us from our sins and from Hell. When we ask Him to be our Savior, then He will be our King. I hope that you have received Jesus as your Savior.

V. Critics - Luke 19:39-40; Matthew 21:10-16

The leaders of Jews did not believe Jesus was their King and they became His enemies. They wanted Jesus to rebuke His disciples for saying He was the King promised in the Old Testament. Jesus told them that if they did not do it, the stones would do it. When the people heard how the leaders felt about Jesus, they began to have doubts about Jesus, too. Outside the city these people had said Jesus was the promised King, but later, inside the city, after they had heard the rulers criticizing Jesus and His disciples, they would only call Him a prophet of Nazareth of Galilee (Mt 21:11). Nazareth was a despised city (John 2:46); Galilee was a lowly land to those in Jerusalem (John 7:41, 52). The people no longer would say that Jesus was the promised King. They were afraid of Jesus' enemies, so they did not say anything that would make Jesus' enemies angry with them.

WE: Do we stand up for Jesus and tell our friends that He is our Savior and King? Or are we afraid of them? Read Proverbs 29:25. If we are afraid of Jesus' enemies, we will never witness to them.

VI. Concern - Luke 19:41-44

Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem that was rejecting Him and soon would kill Him. He would have given them peace (Isa 9:6), but they would soon be destroyed (by Rome less than 40 years later),

WE: Are we concerned for those who reject Christ? Do we believe they will be punished in Hell forever? God loves them (Jn 3:16), but if they do not receive Jesus as their Savior, His wrath is on them (Jn 3:36). They must have Jesus as their Savior or they will be sent to the Lake of Fire (Rev 20:11-15). God is warning us what will happen, because He loves us and does not want us to be separated from Him.

BE (for Action): Jesus does not like to punish His enemies. He loves them and He wants to save them. When they reject Him, He weeps because He knows they will suffer forever. But He cannot help them if they refuse Him. Have you asked Him to be your Savior? If you have, He will also be your King, and you will want to obey Him and tell others about Him. If you have not, then do it right now. (Give the children an invitation to talk to you right after class if they want to be saved.)