

## 真正君王的虚假加冕——马可福音 11:1-11

### False Coronation of the True King—Mark 11:1-11

#### *Introduction and Outline*

- Scripture reading: Mark 11:1-11; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 19:1-6  
Mark 11:1-11(NASB 1995)  
1 As they approached Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples, 2 and said to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, on which no one yet has ever sat; untie it and bring it here. 3 If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ you say, ‘The Lord has need of it’; and immediately he will send it back here.” 4 They went away and found a colt tied at the door, outside in the street; and they untied it. 5 Some of the bystanders were saying to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” 6 They spoke to them just as Jesus had told them, and they gave them permission. 7 They brought the colt to Jesus and put their coats on it; and He sat on it. 8 And many spread their coats in the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. 9 Those who went in front and those who followed were shouting: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David; Hosanna in the highest!” 11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and came into the temple; and after looking around at everything, He left for Bethany with the twelve, since it was already late.
- We often refer to these verses as Jesus’s Triumphal Entry, because the Scripture described a very grandiose, glorious scene, that is, the **coronation ceremony** of the new king, meant to express total devotion for the new king. As it turns out, however, what they did here is merely a **fake show**. They have no genuine respect for Jesus at all. In just a few days, the same group who were cheering and praising Jesus here would be nailing Jesus to the Cross.
- The true motive behind their show is to manipulate Jesus into ruling them in their way. Once Jesus departs from their way, they’d immediately turn against him. They never truly regarded Jesus as their king from the start.
- Jesus, as the King of kings ordained by God, has a two-part **real coronation ceremony**. The first part took place in heaven following His resurrection and ascension (Hebrews 1:3-4); and the second part will take place on earth in the future at His second coming. (Revelation 19-22).
- Outline:  
Title: False Coronation of the True King
  1. The True King (vv. 1-7)
  2. The False Coronation (vv. 8-11)

#### **The True King (vv. 1-7)**

- “Bethphage and Bethany”: Bethany is near Jerusalem, where Jesus lodged in his last week on earth, and also where He raised Lazarus not long ago. Today it’s called Al-Eizariya, meaning place of

Lazarus. Bethphage might be the opposite village in verse 2, where Jesus asked the disciples to get the donkey.

- “approached Jerusalem”. The day when Jesus entered Jerusalem was often called “Palm Sunday”. In fact, the actual date of Jesus entering Jerusalem is more likely on Monday. John 12:1 says Jesus arrived at Bethany six days before the Passover, which would be Saturday. That night he had dinner at Simon the Leper’s place, and the next day, at 12:9, the large crowd of the Jews came to meet Jesus. And the day after that, which would be Monday, Jesus entered Jerusalem at 12:12.

【Significance】 That Monday before Passover was the 10th day of the first month. It’s the day when the Jews pick their Passover lamb (Exodus 12:3). The slaughtered lamb symbolizes God’s anger passing over sinners and landing on the lamb. As the Jews were selecting lambs for themselves, God brought to them the only Lamb whose sacrifice can atone for sins. Such perfect arrangement demonstrates God’s amazing wisdom.

【Supplemental】 Jesus’s triumphal entry also fulfilled the prophecy in Daniel 9:25 about the timing of “Messiah the Prince”. If you add 483 years to the date when the Persian king commanded to rebuild Jerusalem, you will get the exact date of Jesus’s triumphal entry. This is a middle step in the Messiah’s time table according to Daniel 9:24-27. God can use even the fake show of the people to bring about perfect fulfillment of all biblical revelation. Doesn’t this prove that Jesus is indeed the true King?

- “said to them”: It is Jesus who started the show, not the crowd. Jesus is the true King that controls the scene.
- “you will find...” Jesus knew the village on the opposite side had a colt prepared for him; He knew where the colt was tied and that it had never been ridden; He knew also how He could borrow it for His use. This is His divine omniscient.

【Theology】 Sometimes, Jesus in His human nature would voluntarily give up some knowledge according to the Father’s will, such as the timing of His second coming (Mark 13:32); Besides that, Jesus as God is omniscient and knows every detail of everything—past, present, and future—crystal clear.

- “you say, ‘The Lord has need of it’”: Isn’t this explanation a bit insufficient? The owner of the colt must be someone who truly loves the Lord, willing to give everything for the Lord’s use. But believers are also told to be shrewd as serpents, cautious with lots of discernment, and not to believe every word they hear. This guy must not be a particularly cautious person, but someone who is simple-minded, optimistic, gullible, and unsuspecting. Not to say this is good or bad, Jesus simply knew this guy was that kind of person. Jesus knew it only takes a word for that man to cooperate, and this again is His divine omniscience.
- “They spoke to them just as Jesus had told *them*, and they gave them permission”: Just exactly as Jesus had predicted.
- “put their coats on it”: Obviously to serve as a cushion, like the saddle on the back of a horse.
- “He sat on it”: The colt had never been ridden before, so its first ride must be very bumpy and unglamorous. When Solomon became king, he rode on a majestic mule (1 King 1:32-40). Matthew

21:4 says the reason Jesus rode on a colt is to fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah 9:9, and **the key** is Jesus' **gentleness and humility**. Jesus, unlike other kings, is a **gentle king**. This is because Jesus's mission now was not to be rule immediately in the sense of punishing sinners, but to bleed and die to clean sinners from their sin (Mark 10:45). Punishment of sin will happen when he comes again, that time on a white horse and with a sword (Revelation 19:11-16); But for this time around, he came to reveal his gentle side as **the Savior who is humble and meek and can be approached by sinners**.

## The False Coronation (vv. 8-11)

- “many spread their coats in the road”: An action symbolizing willingness to be stepped on by the king. This is how they welcomed Jehu as their king (2 Kings 9:13). It's supposed to show total submission, that they'd totally submit themselves to the king, to render total obedience to the king's orders and commands... Totally a fake show. They didn't submit to Jesus at all.

**【Heart Analysis】** They already had a stubborn will of how Jesus should rule as king. Jesus must rule according to their will for them to follow Him. Their will was for Jesus to lead them to overthrow Rome so they could be freed from the bondage to Rome. They had no idea that Jesus' will to rule as King is to overthrow Satan so they would be freed from the bondage to sin and be enabled to submit to God's rule from the heart. All they wanted was immediate worldly benefits.

It was passover time and Jerusalem was filled with Jews. Their religious fervor was running high. They'd start a revolt as soon as Jesus gave them a word. They might've thought the reason Jesus hadn't yet started the revolt was just the lack of a coronation ceremony. Maybe they thought Jesus hadn't seen enough of their passion, so in order to show that, they threw their clothes on the ground.

**【Reflection】** Why would Jesus even allow them to do that? Previously, He wouldn't allow it at all (John 6:15). But now, the time has come. Jesus would use the fake support of the people to provoke the religious leaders and to incite them to kill Jesus on Passover.

It really wasn't the leaders' plan to kill Jesus during the Passover, for they feared it'd cause a riot (c.f. Matthew 26:5). They wanted to kill Him after the Passover. However, God's timing is exactly the Passover and it must be fulfilled. That's why Jesus would permit the people to put on this fanatical show, which would surely provoke the religious leaders. All of this is part of Jesus' perfectly wise plan.

- “others *spread* leafy branches which they had cut from the fields”: A hundred years ago, they did the same thing with military leader Simon Maccabee, welcoming him with palm branches, because he led them in a revolt to overthrow civil authority at that time. Now, a hundred years later, they used the same palm leaves to welcome Jesus, hoping He would be another Maccabee to lead them in another revolt to overthrow Rome. Palm branches symbolize the joy of victory, so they are celebrating in advance.

**【Reality】** They celebrated way too early. In the future, believers would have “**palm branches in their hands**” as they cry out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.” (**Revelation 7:9**). The true victory cry is to ascribe **salvation** to the Lamb, confessing Jesus as **the sacrificial Lamb that atones for sin**. But here, they were cheering merely for superficial military victories, without any understanding of salvation.

- “Those who went in front and those who followed were shouting”: They were most likely singing a familiar hymn together, making a big scene with loud voices and heated frenzy.
- “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! ...”: Hosanna is a prayer meaning “Save now!” Jesus is indeed coming to save souls. The words they shouted are thoroughly biblical. They are actually the very words of Psalm 118:25-26. A hundred years ago, they had shouted these same words for Maccabee. Even today, you can hear these words in Jewish music, whether they believed in Jesus or not.

【Insight】 You can’t judge people’s spiritual condition simply by whether they can say biblical truths. The key issue always is whether they are **willing to submit to God from the heart.**

【Analogy】 This kind of false coronation happens everyday. There are many who claim to believe in Jesus, only to fulfill some prosperity dreams of their own. They hail Jesus as king in order to have a successful, easy, rich and happy life. When Jesus chooses not to bless them as they want, they’d disown Jesus immediately.

- “came into the temple; and after looking around at everything”: What did Jesus see? The answer is in verse 15. He saw a marketplace, not at all like a temple. Jesus was no doubt indignant. He’s ready to cleanse the temple the next day.
- “He left for Bethany with the twelve, since it was already late”: Where’s the crowd? They all left disappointed. They didn’t get what they wanted. Jesus didn’t accept their political plan. They wanted Jesus to attack the Romans, but Jesus entered the temple to attack their own religion. Jesus wasn’t their kind of king, and the coronation wasn’t the real kind of coronation. The fake show has now ended, and the actors all left as if nothing had ever happened.

### Concluding application

A major caution we get from today’s passage is **how much enthusiasm fake believers can show toward Jesus, even at a crowd level,** until Jesus confronts their sin through the Bible and attacks their false belief system, and they’d be gone. True believers would not be gone, for **they have crowned Jesus as King in their heart** and not just for an external show. **True believers would give the throne of their heart to Jesus, so that He would indeed be the King that rules their life.**