

## Palms or Passion? (Mark 11:1-10)

Introduction: *What special Sunday is it today?*

I. *PALM* SUNDAY FOCUSES ON THE CROWD'S CELEBRATION; *PASSION* SUNDAY FOCUSES ON JESUS' SUFFERING (Mark 11:8-10)

- A. For us today, will it be *palms* or *passion*?
- B. This was a question for me as a teenager in a "passion play"
- C. Today as people in the crowd, do we yell *hosanna* or do we yell *crucify Him*?

II. THE QUESTION: *PALMS* -or- *PASSION* IS AN IMPORTANT QUESTION

- A. We can wave our palms for a Saviour we hope will give us what we want
- B. This was the reaction of the crowd on that day of Jesus' procession into Jerusalem
- C. But "palm waving" was not what Jesus had in mind as he spoke to His disciples before this procession
- D. He spoke of "passion" & suffering for sin (Matt. 16:21-22; 20:17-19; 23:37)

III. WHILE THE CROWDS CHEERED WITH PALMS, ONE MAN WEPT WITH PASSION

- A. Is Jesus weeping for us today?
- B. Note that *Palm Sunday palms* are made into *Ash Wednesday ashes*
- C. Jesus gave up the palms for the passion...for you! (Philippians 2:5-9)

- D. What was going on in Jesus' mind that day of palms & passion? **Lambs!!**
  - 1. (John 1:29) – *the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world*
  - 2. (Exodus 12) – *the Passover lamb*
  - 3. (Isaiah 53:7) – *like a lamb, He was led to the slaughter*
- E. As Jesus entered Jerusalem on that "Palm Sunday", 1000's of lambs were being brought into the city for the Passover sacrifice
- F. On that "Good Friday" as the lambs were being sacrificed, Jesus the Lamb of God was dying on the cross
- G. Jesus' death & resurrection give us reason to "wave palms"

Conclusion: *Today can be celebrated as both **Palm & Passion Sunday**...*

(over)