

John 12:12-19

**The Day
Jesus Went
On A
Donkey
Ride**



I. The Events of the Passion Week

$\frac{1}{2}$ of the book of John is devoted to Jesus' last week

$\frac{2}{5}$ of Matthew devoted to it

$\frac{3}{5}$ of Mark

$\frac{1}{3}$ of Luke

I. The Events of the Passion Week

From all gospels: four chapters cover first 30
years of Jesus' life

85 chapters deal with last 3 ½ years of His life

Of those, 29 focus on the last week

II. What We Know About Donkeys

Average lifespan 25-40 (up to 60) years

George Washington owned the first donkeys in America; became a donkey breeder

Favorite pastime: rolling in dirt

II. What We Know About Donkeys

Long ears: enable hearing and keep them cool

Not only transport burdens and people, in some areas are used as guard animals

According to the *London Times*, more people are killed annually by donkeys than die in airplane crashes

III. Jesus is More Appealing than Religion (vv. 12-13)

One of three mandatory feasts

Celebrated the deliverance of Israel from Egypt

Focal point of their history

III. Jesus is More Appealing than Religion (vv. 12-13)

Same thing every year

"I want my religion like my tea—I want it hot."

--John Wesley

IV. Passover scene

256,000 lambs slain; 10 people for every lamb;
approximately 2.7 million people

Thousands of people meet him and shout
"Hosanna!" Save Now! "Blessed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord!"

Psalm 118:26: a Messianic victory song

V. Jesus: the most compelling figure in history

"I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires.

V. Jesus: the most compelling figure in history

But on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded His Empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him." –Napoleon Bonaparte

V. Jesus: the most compelling figure in history

"I am an historian, I am not a believer, but I must confess as a historian that this penniless preacher from Nazareth is irrevocably the very center of history. Jesus Christ is easily the most dominant figure in all history." --H.G. Wells

V. Jesus: the most compelling figure in history

"A man who was completely innocent, offered himself as a sacrifice for the good of others, including his enemies, and became the ransom of the world. It was a perfect act." --Mahatma Gandhi

V. Jesus: the most compelling figure in history

"I believe there is no one deeper, lovelier, more sympathetic and more perfect than Jesus, not only is there no one else like him, there never could be anyone like him." -- *Fyodor Dostoevsky*

VI. Scripture is More Reliable than Opinion

Prophet (John 7:40)

Not from God (John 9:16)

Sinner (John 9:24)

Prophet (John 9:17) (See Deuteronomy 18:15)

VI. Scripture is More Reliable than Opinion

Has a demon and is crazy (John 10:20)

From Galilee, couldn't be Christ (John 7:41)

Three times John recorded there was a division
because of Jesus (John 7:43; 9:16; 10:19)

What Scripture declares Jesus to be is more
important than what anyone believes Him to be

VII. Accuracy of prophecy

Luke 19:41-44

Daniel 9:25-26

Artaxerxes Longimanus commanded to restore
Jerusalem on March 14, 445 B.C.

VII. Accuracy of prophecy

Sir Robert Anderson in his book *The Coming Prince* determined: 483 years, based on the 360-day calendar year was 173,880 days. April 6, 32 A.D. (the 10th of Nisan)

Opinion doesn't matter unless it is as accurate as
the Bible

VII. Accuracy of prophecy

Scripture that reveals God with pinpoint accuracy is more reliable than anyone's opinion
A God this detailed, accurate, and caring: is He trustworthy?

VIII. Following is More Important than Observation

Followers:

Disciples –followers, learners (v. 16)

Eyewitnesses to Lazarus' resurrection (v. 17)

VIII. Following is More Important than Observation

Followers:

Those who heard the eyewitness testimony
(v.18)

Pharisees—the religious elite (v. 19)

Only the disciples believed the Scripture and
placed their trust in Jesus