

Palm Sunday

The day, taken from the Gospels, where a whole city threw a parade for Jesus.

This day is Bittersweet for us because we know that Friday is coming-

John 12:12b, 13 ; Luke 19:36-40

On Sunday Jesus rode into the city with the people shouting praises and praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.

On Friday many in this same crowd will exchange words of praise to words of death.

Shouting Hosanna, Hosanna and then later shouting Crucify Him, Crucify Him.

Matthew 27:15-23

Why the change? The reality is that their words did not match their heart.

Keys to a Committed Faith

I. A COMMITTED FAITH IS CHRIST-CENTERED NOT SELF-CENTERED.

On Sunday the majority praised him for two reasons.

1. He had healed the sick, raised the dead...

2. They saw in Jesus a way to be politically delivered from the Romans-

A few days later at the trial they saw a beaten and disfigured Jesus-

A man who no longer looked like a deliverer or a conqueror.

For them it was all about **ME!**

II. A COMMITTED FAITH IS RELATIONSHIP DRIVEN.

On Sunday for that one brief moment the popular thing to do was celebrate Jesus.

The reality is that their words did not match their heart.

Later at the trial, shouting crucify Him was the thing to do...

A committed faith comes only through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

III. A COMMITTED FAITH IS NOT SWAYED BY TRIALS OR CRISES.

At the parade it was trendy to offer praise... Everyone was doing it.

But At the trial to speak out for Jesus was risky...Possibly even life threatening.

Many come to Jesus expecting everything to go Good...

So when the bottom drops out... They end up crying out Why God?

If our faith is based on our situations or circumstances, it will never be committed...

IV. A COMMITTED FAITH TAKES THE GOOD WITH THE BAD.

Beloved, all we are ever promised is that in the midst of both our good and bad;

Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us.

He will stand with us.

True Contentment comes when we accept what God is doing and thank Him for it.

As we approach this climatic week in the life of our Savior:

Doesn't our relationship with Jesus deserve a second look?

Doesn't he deserve to have total control of our life?

Doesn't he deserve an intimate and growing personal relationship with You?

This week consider it all... and choose to give it all to him...