

eXplain it
Palm Sunday

Zechariah 9:9-12 (Rejoice Greatly, Your King Comes)
Psalm 118:19-29 (Blessed is He Who Comes)
Philippians 2:5-11 (Humiliation and Exaltation of Jesus)
Matthew 21:1-9 (The Triumphal Entry)

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Matthew 21:1-9 (The Triumphal Entry)

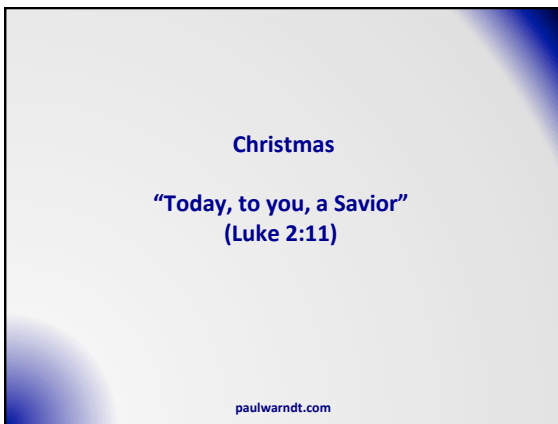
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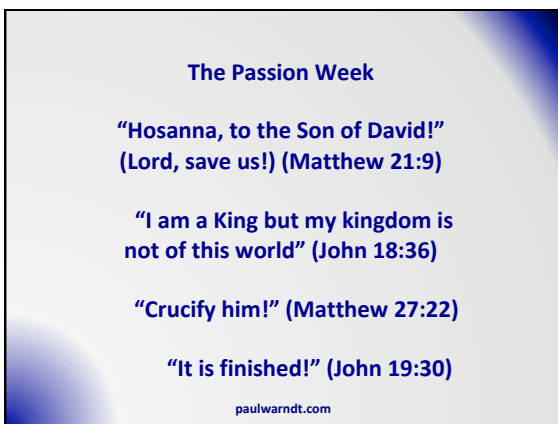
**What happens when your experience with God
doesn't match your expectation of God?**

**... your hope and God's fulfillment
don't match up?**

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Easter Morning

**“Why do you look for the living among the dead?
He is not here; he has risen!” (Luke 24:6)**

On the Emmaus Road

**“... but we had hoped that he was the one
who was going to redeem Israel.” (Luke 24:21)**

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- 1. Every dream brings with it an expectation.**
- 2. Every expectation, if not met, brings disappointment.**
- 3. Every disappointment, if not reframed, brings despair.**
- 4. Despair, if not confronted or comforted with the Gospel, brings death.**

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Disappointment and despair ...

reveal the false idols

reveal the one true God

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The real endgame of this world is not possessions or position or power ... it's about control.

Thy Name vs. my name
Thy Kingdom vs. my kingdom
Thy Will vs. my will

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The Holy Week Tension

It appears that sin, death and the power of the Devil are out of control

but the reality is that ...

they are never more under control

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Zechariah 9:9: "Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Zion! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on colt, the foal of donkey." (NIV)

Isaiah 62:11: "Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See your Savior comes!'"

"Hosanna! Lord, save!" (Psalm 118)

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As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said,
“If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes ... you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”
Luke 19:41-44 (NIV)
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But we had hoped ...
This is what is written ...
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No One Expected ...
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Philippians 2:5-11
the Humiliation and Exaltation of Jesus

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the Humiliation
though He could, He didn't

the Exaltation
He can and He does

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Philippians 2:5-11: Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

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Philippians 2:8-11: And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

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Philippians 2:8-11: Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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What happens when your experience *with* Jesus goes beyond your expectations of Jesus?

**you get more than you hoped for
you're filled with ... joy**

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Another "Crowd" with Palm Branches

Revelations 7:9-10: After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. (NIV)

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Revelations 7:9-10: They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." (NIV)

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**But we had hoped ...
This is what is written ...**

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