

The Beginning of the END? ~ Matthew 21:1-17

→ Scripture Reading Luke 19:36-41

INTRODUCTION

The Beginning of the End is that point where something **starts to get gradually worse**, until it FAILS or ENDS completely. Cambridge Dict.

→ CHART showing - the Beginning **-OR-** the Beginning of the END

→ Map of Israel.. then → Map of Jerusalem

The KING is COMING ~ Matthew 21:1-11

[1] As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, [2] saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. [3] If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." [4] This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: [5] Say to the **Daughter of Zion**, See, **YOUR KING** comes to you, GENTLE and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

[6] The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. [7] They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and **Jesus sat on them**.

By getting on that donkey and riding it into Jerusalem, Jesus is making a **bold statement**. He is claiming to **be the Messiah**. He is claiming to be the FULFILLMENT of Zechariah's prophecy. PTW

[8] A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. [9] The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!"

[10] When **Jesus ENTERED Jerusalem**, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" [11] The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, **the prophet** from Nazareth in Galilee."

→ Map Jerusalem

IMPLICATIONS

→ **God's Timing is ALWAYS Perfect**

Galatians 4:4-5 (NIV) But when the TIME had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, [5] to REDEEM those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (NIV) Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have NO HOPE.

[16] For the Lord himself WILL COME down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

[18] Therefore encourage each other with these words.

→ **Contrast between the FIRST and SECOND Comings of Jesus**

Matthew 20:28 (NLT) For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to SERVE others and to give His life as a RANSOM for many."

Revelation 19:11 (NIV) I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called FAITHFUL and TRUTH. With Justice He JUDGES and MAKES WAR.

Restoring God's HOUSE ~ Matthew 21:12-17

[12] Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. [13] "It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of robbers.'"

→Map Temple

[14] The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. [15] But when the chief **priests and the teachers** of the law **SAW the wonderful things HE DID** and the children shouting in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

[16] "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, "'From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise'?" [17] And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night.

CONTEXT

Matthew 21:45-46 (NLT) When the leading priests and Pharisees heard this parable, they realized HE was telling the story AGAINST them - they were the wicked farmers. [46] They wanted to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus to be a prophet.

Matthew 22:46 (NLT) No one could answer him. And after that, **NO ONE dared to ask Him any more questions.**

IMPLICATIONS

→Jesus Knew **EXACTLY** what He was Doing...

- RODE a donkey into Jerusalem
- ENTERED Jerusalem through the SHEEP Gate
- CLEANSED the temple
- CONDEMNED the Religious Leaders
- Declared JUDGEMENTS on them

During this last week Jesus: ENTERED Jerusalem, CLEANSED the temple, CHALLENGED the religious leaders, INSTITUTED the Lord's Supper, was ARRESTED, was TRIED, was CRUCIFIED, and then was **RAISED from the DEAD.** CCE

TAKE AWAY ??

John 1:29 (NIV) ...John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, **the Lamb of God**, who **takes away the sin of the world!**

1 Peter 1:18-19 (NLT) For you know that **God paid a ransom to SAVE you** from the empty life you inherited from your ancestors. And **the ransom He paid** was not mere gold or silver. [19] It was **the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless LAMB of God.**

Isaiah 53:5-6 (NIV) But HE was pierced for our transgressions, HE was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon HIM, and by HIS wounds we are healed. [6] We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and **the LORD has laid on HIM the iniquity of us ALL.**