

# Don't Trip Over PRIDE

Jer 9:23-24 Phil 2:1-11 Luke 19:28-40

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**PALM SUNDAY is 100% a God-event.** Jesus is orchestrating the entire thing. It is a deliberate, intentional, public parade that proclaims Jesus as King! Not once in the Gospels do we ever hear of Jesus ever riding a horse, saddling a donkey, or sitting in a wagon. But now, Jesus the King rides into the Royal City of Jerusalem on a humble colt as predicted by Old Testament Messianic prophecy. He is greeted by shouts of “Hosanna!” as people wave palm branches and throw their robes on the ground before Him. It is such a joyous and momentous event that even if the people were silent, the rocks would have shouted out “Hosanna!”

*All creation rejoiced on Palm Sunday ... except the Pharisees.* They were angry. "**Rebuke your disciples!**" they sneered at Jesus.

- ⇒ They were **full** of bitterness, rage, anger, and malice.
- ⇒ They **rejected** Christ as the Savior and Messiah.
- ⇒ They did not **recognize** Him as the Creator of the world
- ⇒ They **resented** His authority.
- ⇒ They **despised** His teachings.
- ⇒ They **ignored** His miracles.
- ⇒ The **accused** Jesus of having a demon.
- ⇒ They **slandered** Him by calling Him a Samaritan
- ⇒ They **claimed** He was an lawbreaker
- ⇒ They **charged** Him with blasphemy
- ⇒ They **cast out** of the synagogue anyone who defended Him.
- ⇒ They tried to **arrest** Him

Their **pride** blinded them, and they **plotted to kill their Messiah**, the Son of God, and the King of Israel.

**PRIDE can be a big problem.** **Pride** keeps you from seeing the truth about yourself and the Truth about Christ. Like the Pharisees, **pride** keeps you

from seeing your sin, and your lost condition without Christ. Your **pride** thinks that you are a good person, worthy of great respect and admiration. Your **pride** keeps you from seeing your sin, confessing your sin, and humbling yourself. If you can't see your own sin, then you will never see the Truth about Christ.

Your **pride** keeps you from seeing Jesus as the Savior of the world. **Pride** says, "I don't need a Savior. I am a good person who does good things." **Pride** even has a checklist of good things that it comforts itself with. Like the Pharisees, you close your ears to Jesus and harden your heart to the Word of God. You reject Christ and turn your back on Him.

In contrast to **sinful pride**, stands the Palm Sunday Savior. Jesus, the Promised Messiah, the Son of God, and the King of Israel, **humbled** Himself in order to suffer terribly and die dreadfully for sinful, **prideful**, rebellious, and immoral people – *like you and like me*.

**The magnitude of Jesus' humility is astonishing!!**

Although Christ Jesus was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but **made himself nothing**, taking the form of a **servant**, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He **humbled himself** by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:6-8

**The magnitude of Jesus' humility is astonishing!!**

On Palm Sunday, God Himself enters Jerusalem --- but you would never know it by looking at Jesus. He is a **humble** King and a **lowly** servant riding on a donkey who will allow the Jews and the Romans to beat and flog Him; they will spit on Him; they will insult Him, mock Him; they will pound a crown of thorns into His head. He will then be cruelly crucified and then quickly buried in a borrowed tomb.

Jesus, the Almighty God of Heaven and Earth, **humbled** Himself and was obedient to God the Father. God the Father so loved the world that in order to save all people, He would give up His Only Begotten Son on a cross. Jesus' death will reconcile us to God; and forgive our sins. Everyone who believes in

Jesus will live forever in the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus was obedient to His Father, He **humbled** Himself, and He **willingly** set aside His divinity in order to pay the penalty for our sin and die on a cross for each one of us.

**The magnitude of Jesus' **humility** is astonishing!!  
And its highlighted during Holy Week!**

The eternal, all-powerful Son of God **humbled** Himself and became a Man for the specific purpose of suffering and dying for you and for me!

Jesus' **humility** means salvation for you. His death brings you the forgiveness of sins. His resurrection from the dead brings you eternal life.

Jesus' **humility** also empowers you to live a humble life. Here is how the Apostle Paul teaches it to us:

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in **humility** count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Philippians 2:1-4

**We learn from Jesus how to live as **humble** people.  
Jesus' **humility** empowers you to live a **humble** life.**

**Humility** is a **mindset**; it is an **attitude** where you consider other people more significant than yourself; it is an **approach** to other people where you look for ways to serve, love and care for other people. **Humility** is a **determination** to be “other-centered”, not “self-centered.” We learn from Jesus how to live as **humble** people.

- + **Humility** begins when you repent of your **pride**, and confess it to God. You realize that you have no chance of saving yourself by your own good works, and you trust only in Christ and His mercy for salvation.

- + Humility is a constant awareness that you belong to the Lord and that you are dependent on Him for all things
- + Humility is loving service to your neighbor, counting others better than yourself.

Humility always begins with Jesus! He is not only your example, but He is the eternal Son of God who empowers you to live in Humility every day and in all situations and with all kinds of people. *Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourself. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

**The magnitude of Jesus' humility is astonishing  
And it empowers you to live a humble life in faith!**

As Holy Week begins today, we rejoice, and we pray “Hosanna!” as we wave our palms branches. But we know what is coming this week. As this week spirals into demonic darkness, Jesus will humbly . . .

- Be **betrayed** with a kiss, by one of the 12 disciples!
- He will be **arrested** by an armed crowd,
- He will be **denied** by Peter -- His close friend.
- He will be **ridiculed** with a purple robe;
- He will be **crowned** with painful thorns;
- He will be **beaten, whipped, spit on, insulted and abused;**
- He will be **tried in a mock trial** by the high priest, and
- He will be **dragged before an unjust Roman Governor**
- He will **die by crucifixion**
- He will be **buried** in a stranger's tomb
- **AND HE WILL RISE FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY!**

**The depth of Jesus' humility is indescribable; it is truly astonishing.  
His humility makes you a HUMBLE person. Amen!**

## Luke 19:28-40

28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 30 "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.' " 32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They replied, "The Lord needs it." 35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. 36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. 37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: 38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" 40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

## Jeremiah 9:23-24

This is what the LORD says: “Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, 24 but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the LORD.

## Philippians 2:1-11

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9 Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Lord Jesus,**  
you humbled yourself, even to the  
point of dying on a cross for each  
of us.

**Teach us to be humble people.**  
Help us to turn away from our  
pride, and to look to you for  
strength and power to be humble  
people.

**Work through us to love, serve  
and help the people in our lives.**  
As You humbled Yourself for us;  
help us to humble ourselves for  
our neighbor.

**Amen!**