



Five-Day Devotional 13  
The Triumphal Entry (Palm Sunday)  
March 30-April 3, 2026

From the Pastor's Desk  
Devotional Inspiration  
The Triumphal Entry (Palm Sunday)

**Introduction:** This Five-Day devotional is designed to help us refocus and connect in an expanded manner how Passion Week relates to our life's journey on this earth. "Passion Week (also known as Holy Week) is the time from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday (Resurrection Sunday).

Passion Week is so named because of the passion with which Jesus willingly went to the cross to be a sacrifice for the sins of *humanity*. Passion Week is described in Matthew chapters 21-27; Mark chapters 11-15; Luke chapters 19-23; and John chapters 12-19. Passion Week begins with the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a colt as prophesied in Zechariah 9:9. (Got Question.org, italics mine).

Only John mentions the palm (from which the name Palm Sunday derives). The date palm branches are 6-10 feet long. It is the only native palm tree in the Holy Land. It was highly valued for its fruit and transplanted from very ancient times to other sites (Bruce J. Malina and Richard L. Rohrbaugh, Social-Science Commentary on the Gospel of John, Fortress Press, Minneapolis, MN, 1998, p. 210).

Blessings,

Pastor Fryar

*Note to reader: This five-day devotional is designed to encourage and reaffirm that when you pray, you are deepening your walk with God. This is highlighted with scripture reference for each day.*



### **Day 1: The Beginning of Passion Week**

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:1–11; John 12:12–19.

**Focus:** Understanding the significance of Palm Sunday

**Devotional thought:** Palm Sunday marks the beginning of what is known as Passion Week—the final days leading to the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. This week is called “Passion Week” because of the intense love and determination with which Jesus willingly went to the cross to redeem humanity.

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, He fulfilled ancient prophecy and revealed His mission. This was not a misplaced moment—it was divine timing. The King was arriving, not to conquer Rome, but to conquer sin.

**Reflection:**

- Do you recognize the significance of Jesus’ mission in your daily life?
- How does His willingness to suffer for you shape your faith?



## Day 2: The Symbol of the Palm

**Scripture:** Revelation 7:9.

**Focus:** The meaning behind the palm branches

**Devotional thought:** Only John’s Gospel mentions the palm branches, from which Palm Sunday gets its name. In biblical and historical context, palms symbolized **victory, power, joy, and peace**.

They were used in celebrations like the rededication of the temple and even appeared on coins during times of national struggle.

When the crowd waved palm branches for Jesus, they were declaring Him a victorious king—but their understanding of that victory was incomplete.

### **Reflection:**

- What kind of “victory” are you expecting Jesus to bring into your life?
- Are you seeking temporary solutions or eternal transformation?



### **Day 3: The Misunderstood Messiah**

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:8–9; Psalm 118:25–26.

**Focus:** The crowd's expectations vs. God's plan.

**Devotional thought:** The crowd welcomed Jesus with enthusiasm, shouting words from Psalm 118. Yet many believed He would lead a political uprising, overthrow Roman rule, and bring immediate social change.

In their excitement, they emphasized certain scriptures while overlooking others—especially the prophecy of a humble king in Zechariah 9:9.

This serves as a caution: we must not let our personal expectations distort God's Word. Selective understanding can lead to spiritual blindness.

**Reflection:**

- Are you interpreting God's Word through your circumstances?
- What expectations might you need to surrender to align with God's will?



#### **Day 4: The Humble King**

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:5; Zechariah 9:9.

**Focus:** Jesus' message of humility and peace

**Devotional thought:** Jesus deliberately chose a donkey instead of a war horse. In doing so, He declared that His kingdom would not be established through violence, but through humility and peace.

This contrasts sharply with His future return described in Revelation 19:11–16, where He comes in judgment and power. Palm Sunday reminds us: **Jesus comes first as Savior before He comes as Judge.**

**Reflection:**

- Have you welcomed Jesus as the humble King of your life?
- In what areas is He calling you to embrace humility over control?



### **Day 5: The Transforming King**

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:12–16; Psalm 8:2.

**Focus:** Jesus restores, heals, and reorders

**Devotional thought:** After entering Jerusalem, Jesus took action:

- He cleansed the temple, removing exploitation and restoring true worship.
- He healed the blind and the lame—those once considered unfit (compare Leviticus 21:16–23).
- He affirmed the praise of children, showing that pure worship carries spiritual power.

Jesus doesn't just enter our lives—He transforms them. He removes what hinders, restores what is broken, and releases authentic praise.

**Reflection:**

- What needs to be cleansed or reordered in your life?
- Are you allowing Jesus to make you whole?

**Closing thought:** Jesus came in humility to heal, restore, and save. But Scripture reminds us that He will come again—not in humility, but in power and judgment (Revelation 19:11–16).

**Final Question:** Have you recognized how Jesus comes to you today—gently, humbly, and full of grace?