



## The Essentials: The Gospel of Luke

### Session 7: Luke 19:28-21

#### Opening Collect

*Together:* Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

#### Read: Luke 19:28-48

#### Opening Thought:

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, he came to complete his ultimate goal—the redemption of the people of God through his death and resurrection. And communicated the significance of the moment by entering the city in a way that would announce the prophetic fulfillment of Zechariah, where it describes how the promised king of Israel will come in great humility “riding on a colt, the foal of a donkey” (Zechariah 9:9). This detail was well noted by both the sympathetic followers of Jesus, and, especially, by his antagonists who are deeply offended by his audacious claim. According to the full breadth of these chapters, the entire city was in uproar about his coming. Even more, by looking at 19:41-48 we can see how, theologically speaking, Jesus has come to claim the city of Zion as its rightful king—simultaneously declaring his great compassion for Jerusalem *and* dramatically rebuking those would defile her center of worship. Jesus initiated the final stage of completing his ultimate goal by simply riding into the city to celebrate the Jewish Passover.

#### Discussion:

1. When the crowd welcomes Jesus into Jerusalem they cry out using words from Psalm 118 about a promised Messiah, and they throw their cloaks on the ground for him to walk on. What do you think they expected Jesus to do?
2. In v. 39 the Pharisees try to get Jesus to stop his followers from receiving him as the Messiah, but Jesus says even the stones would cry out if he made his followers stop (v. 40). What do you think he means?
3. Jesus expresses a deep love for Jerusalem (v. 41). And yet her leaders are not so thrilled about his popularity. Why do these religious elite feel the way that they do?
4. Read vv. 47 and 48. What made Jesus so compelling to these people? Has anything about him made you “spellbound”?

#### Check in and Closing Prayer

## Luke 19:28-48

<sup>28</sup> After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

<sup>29</sup> When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup> saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ” <sup>32</sup> So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. <sup>33</sup> As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup> They said, “The Lord needs it.” <sup>35</sup> Then they brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup> As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup> Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, <sup>38</sup> saying,

“Blessed is the king  
who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven,  
and glory in the highest heaven!”

<sup>39</sup> Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, order your disciples to stop.” <sup>40</sup> He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.”

<sup>41</sup> As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup> saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup> Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. <sup>44</sup> They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

<sup>45</sup> Then he entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling things there, <sup>46</sup> and he said, “It is written,

‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’  
but you have made it a den of robbers.”

<sup>47</sup> Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him, <sup>48</sup> but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.