

Hail Him or Nail Him?

John 12:12-19

The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. ¹³They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the King of Israel!" ¹⁴Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written, ¹⁵"Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."

¹⁶At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that they had done these things to him.

¹⁷Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. ¹⁸Many people, because they had heard that he had given this miraculous sign, went out to meet him.

¹⁹So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"

I. The Turning of the Tide

1. Christ was rejected due to _____.

- What you don't know can _____ you.
- Ignorance might be your _____ but it will not work as an _____.

Romans 1:18-20

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Acts 3:17-19

"Now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did your leaders. ¹⁸But this is how God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, saying that his Christ would suffer. ¹⁹Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord,

2. Christ was rejected due to religious _____.

- Our culture's problems with Christianity stem from the _____, not Jesus.
- _____ can be repulsive but _____ is always attractive.
- _____ is the cry of our culture and a defining characteristic of a true Christ-follower.

1 John 1:8

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

3. Christ was rejected due to _____.

- The cross today is a glamorous _____ instead of a gruesome _____.
- The crucifixion of Christ was the greatest _____ / _____ in human history.

4. Christ was rejected because of a call to _____.

- True faith always bears _____.

Matthew 21:18-19

Early in the morning, as he was on his way back to the city, he was hungry. ¹⁹Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, "May you never bear fruit again!" Immediately the tree withered.

- Walking in sin is continuing to _____ the savior. When Jesus has your heart, sin will _____ your heart.
- Christ has never been impressed with crowds, but commitment born out of _____.
- God has never needed crowds, merely commitment to accomplish his _____.
- Christ's fickle followers fled when their _____ died.
- If _____ is not enough, no other solution He brings will be either.
- _____ is a prerequisite to life.

II. Moving from Fickleness to Faithfulness

1. Jesus' _____ is always perfect.
2. His _____ is perfect.
3. His _____ is perfect.