

AN UNEXPECTED RESCUE

March 25, 2018 John 12:12-36 by Bob Branch
Finding Jesus, Finding Life part 36

BIG IDEA: Jesus comes to our rescue in an unexpectedly humble way, revealing his otherworldly glory through death, defeating the evil one and drawing us to himself. Then, he invites us to enter in by losing ourselves.

¹³ They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, “Hosanna!” ... ¹⁵ “...your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.” ...

1. Our king comes unexpectedly and HUMBLY.

“the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” **Matthew 20:28**
(see Phil. 2:5-8)

¹⁹ “See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!”

²³ “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴ Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

2. His otherworldly GLORY will be revealed through death.

“You [Jesus] are worthy... for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation” **Revelation 5:9**

²⁷ “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!”

³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die... ³⁶ Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.”

3. His death will DEFEAT the evil one and DRAW us to himself—out of darkness into the light.

“he came to his senses... got up and went to his father... But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.” **Lk. 15:17-21**

...if it dies, it produces many seeds. ²⁵ Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶ Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. My Father will honor the one who serves me.

4. To follow and believe means to LOSE OUR LIVES in order to find them, to die in order to live.