

English Summary:

We tend to rely too much on our memory when we deal with well known Bible stories. Jesus entering Jerusalem is one such story. Each of the gospels tells it, but each one with a different emphasis.

The gospel of John tells it from a completely different angle.

Mixing the stories is like mixing various wines. What you get is not a wine with all the qualities, but a mixture where good qualities are lost.

The gospel of John shows how the Creator becomes human to win back his creation, the cosmos, the world. Yet he is challenged by those that should be closest to him - the religious leaders of the Jews.

As the gospel unfolds, the leaders become more and more aggressive towards him. At the same time the ordinary people start to realise more and more that he is special.

The entry into Jerusalem is a next climax on this road: The crowds come from the city to receive Jesus like a king. He finds a donkey to symbolise that he is a very different type of king. He does not rule with might and power, but with compassion. He does not destroy the enemies but restores. The disciples only understand this after his resurrection.

According to John's gospel this entry is part of the final stages of Jesus's road to achieve salvation. The following persecution and suffering are not a dark downhill, where he is the victim. Rather, he stays in charge, even at his trial. At his dying he does not shout or cry, but says, speaks: It is finished, completed!

Thus the gospel of John takes us on a journey that shows that the Creator God is not deterred by anyone, not even his own people, to bring salvation. The crowds realise it. Let us join them in this celebration.



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