

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Red Bud, Illinois**

**Adult Bible Class**  
***“Passover Preparation and Palm Sunday”***

**Exodus 12:1-11**

Verse 2: “first month of your year” Abib-“the ripening of the grain” or Nisan (Babylonian name)

Verse 3: “tenth day” This was the day on which Jesus entered Jerusalem. As the people were selecting lambs for the Passover sacrifice, their God was showing them His Lamb who would be sacrificed for them.

*John 1:29 The next day he (John the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”*

*1 Corinthians 5:7 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.*

**Verse 5: What type of lamb must they choose? \_\_\_\_\_**

*Hebrews 4:15 For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.*

*1 Peter 1:18-20 knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, [19] but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. [20] He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake,*

Verse 7: There is no salvation without blood being shed. Our rescue from sin comes from the precious blood of Jesus shed for us on the cross, covering us in our baptism, and given to us in the Lord’s Supper.

Verse 8: “bread without yeast” Yeast takes time to make bread rise. They had to be ready to leave in a hurry. Yeast also becomes a symbol of sin. A little bit of it goes a long way. (Getting rid of fat before Lent)

**“One bad apple spoils the \_\_\_\_\_.”**

Verse 9: This is how a shepherd would cook the animal.

Verse 11: “Cars keys in hand, jacket on, shoes tied, ready to leave at a moment’s notice.”

**Luke 19:28-44**

Verse 28: “up” Jerusalem is 2500 feet above sea level (1/2 a mile)

Verse 29: “Mount of Olives” Jewish tradition at that time said that God’s Messiah would come to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives.

*Zechariah 14:4 On that day his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives that lies before Jerusalem on the east, and the Mount of Olives shall be split in two from east to west by a very wide valley, so that one half of the Mount shall move northward, and the other half southward.*

Verse 30: “village ahead of you” probably Bethphage which was closer to Jerusalem than Bethany. “no one has ever ridden” It had not yet been used for a common, ordinary purpose.

*1 Samuel 6:7 Now then, take and prepare a new cart and two milk cows on which there has never come a yoke, and yoke the cows to the cart, but take their calves home, away from them. (pulling the cart that held the Ark of the Covenant)*

Verses 33-34: As if someone came into your yard, started up your riding lawn mower, and drove off with it. (But there may have been some familiarity between Jesus and the owners of the colt.)

That there are multiple owners of this colt may indicate their poverty. It takes more than one person to pay for such a simple farm animal.

Verse 35: “colt” This was a lowly animal of peace and service in contrast to the horse a warrior would ride.

In doing so Jesus knowingly fulfills Zechariah 9:9 *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!*

*Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you;*

*righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

Yet at the same time, the royal mount used by King David and his sons was a mule:

2 Samuel 16:2 *And the king (David) said to Ziba, "Why have you brought these?" Ziba answered, "The donkeys are for the king's household to ride on, the bread and summer fruit for the young men to eat, and the wine for those who faint in the wilderness to drink."*

2 Samuel 18:9 *And Absalom happened to meet the servants of David. Absalom was riding on his mule, and the mule went under the thick branches of a great terebinth, and his head caught fast in the oak, and he was suspended between heaven and earth, while the mule that was under him went on.*

1 Kings 1:33 *And the king (David) said to them, "Take with you the servants of your lord and have Solomon my son ride on my own mule, and bring him down to Gihon."*

By riding this colt into Jerusalem, Jesus all at once shows Himself to be God's promised Messiah, but not the earthly, military, political Savior for which the revolutionary-minded Jews were expecting and hoping.

Verse 36: Parade atmosphere, the crowd gives Jesus the red carpet treatment (like bridal party in wedding)

Verse 37: Recent miracles Jesus had performed as He neared Jerusalem were the healing of blind Bartimaeus (Luke 18:35-43) and the raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11).

“whole crowd of disciples” All the religious pilgrims who were traveling with Jesus from Galilee to Jerusalem in order to observe the Passover.

Verse 38: This verse is a quote of Psalm 118:26. At that time they considered it to be a prophecy of God's Messiah. “Hosanna” or “Save now” comes from Psalm 118:25.

Verse 39: Only Luke records the Pharisees' response. They were such party poopers!

Verse 40: “the stones will cry out” Either in witness to Jesus as the Messiah or in agony over the opportunity the people of Jerusalem lost to confess Jesus as the Messiah and thus brought God's judgment upon themselves.

*Habakkuk 2:11 For the stone will cry out from the wall, and the beam from the woodwork respond.*

Verses 41-44 are found only in Luke.

Verse 42: “peace” a right relationship between creature and Creator; won for us by Jesus.

Verse 43: This is fulfilled when the Romans squashed the Jewish revolt and conquered Jerusalem in AD 70 using an embankment to lay siege to the city.

Verse 44: God had come to His people in the person of Jesus, but the people failed to recognize Him as the Messiah. Today God comes to us in His Word and Sacraments, but many fail to see Him present in these means of His grace.

Verses 43-44: **How many times does Jesus use the word “you”?** \_\_\_\_\_

In doing so Jesus emphasizes that the blame for their punishment rests with the people of Jerusalem for not taking advantage of God's presence among them. The credit for our salvation belongs to God. The blame for our condemnation is ours and ours alone.