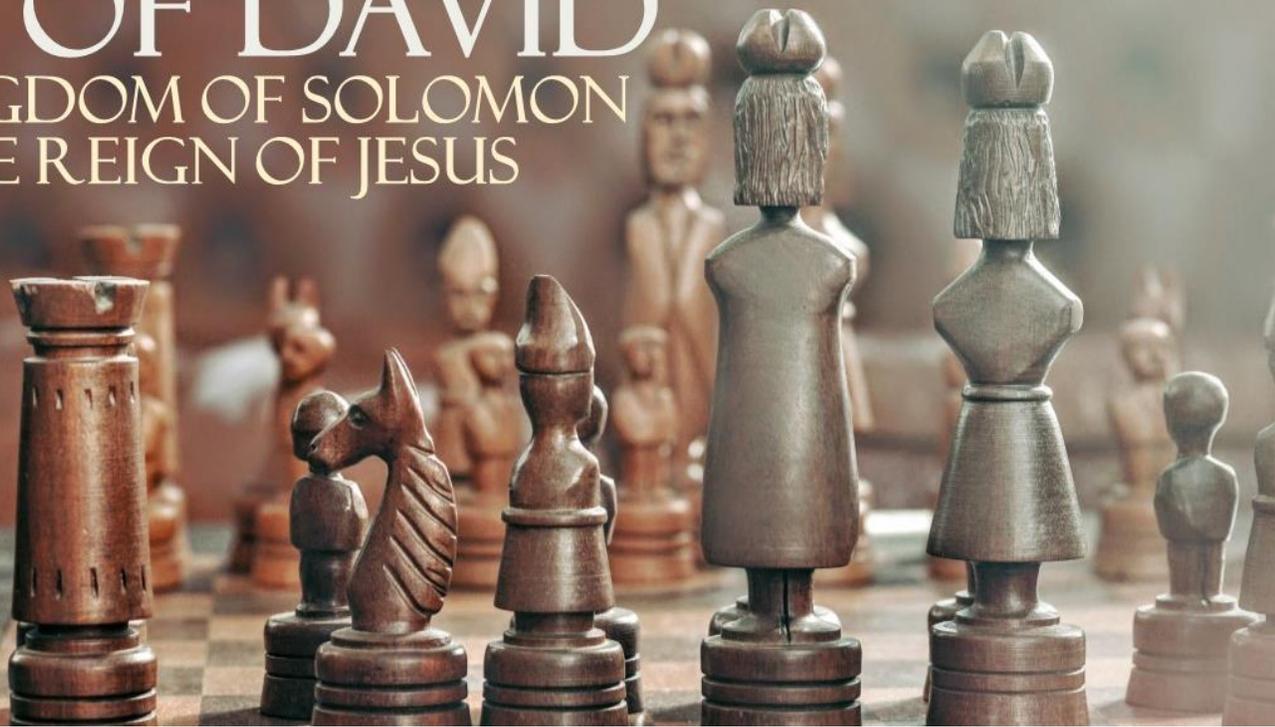


SON OF DAVID

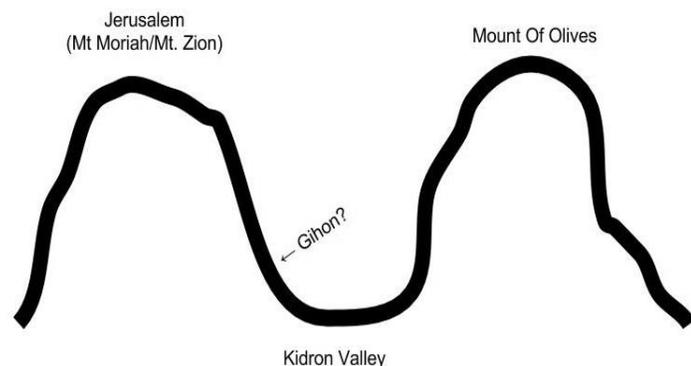
THE KINGDOM OF SOLOMON & THE REIGN OF JESUS



PART 4: JESUS COMES AS KING

Most scholars and historians recognize Gihon as the location of a critical spring to the residents of Jerusalem. It was outside of main part of the city of David, perhaps on the mountainside or in the Kidron Valley. Consider the following to help us locate Gihon:

- The wording used in 1 Kings 1:33 to identify Gihon is "bring him down to Gihon". This implies the location is lower or away from David's royal residence in Jerusalem.
- Jewish historian Josephus mentions that Gihon is "outside the city" ("Antiquities." Book 7, Chapter 14, Section 5, Verse 355).
- 2 Chronicles 33:14 mentions that during some of Manasseh's construction projects the outer wall of the city of David was built "on the west side of Gihon, in the valley (the south-eastern side of Jerusalem), even to the entrance of the Fish Gate (the north-western side)." This puts Gihon just below the "City of David" portion of Jerusalem, outside of the city proper towards the Kidron Valley/Mount of Olive's side.
- "The Gihon Spring, the only source of water of the city, emerges in the Kidron Valley, east of the City of David...The spring emerged in a cave on the eastern slope of the City of David above the Kidron Valley, and from there water flowed into the valley, watering the terraced, agricultural plots on the slope of the City of David.." - Jewish Virtual Library on Biblical Water Systems



Here is what we have just witnessed:

SOLOMON, THE SON OF DAVID, THE NEXT KING OF ISRAEL IS RIDING ON A DONKEY INTO THE CITY OF JERUSALEM WITH CROWDS GROWING WHILE CHORUSES OF "LONG LIVE THE KING" ARE BEING SUNG. HE IS BEING PROCLAIMED THE RIGHTFUL HEIR OF THE KINGDOM, WHILE AN IMPOSTER ATTEMPTS TO SIT ON THE THRONE.

With the 1 Kings account in mind, let's consider what the Gospel writers tell us.

MODE OF TRANSPORTATION

Both Solomon and Jesus ride in on a mule/donkey (The LXX uses a similar word to the NT word translated donkey).

For a king to be able to ride into his city on a donkey indicates he is coming in peace during a time of peace. He is approachable by his people and not a cruel ruler. The contrast would be a great horse (or elephant in some regions) which would symbolize a military ruler coming to conquer or to assure his people of his strength during a time of war.

CRIES OF THE CROWD

We know Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a donkey, but let's observe what the crowd's said:

Matthew 21:9 - The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "**Hosanna to the Son of David**; BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Hosanna in the highest!"

Mark 11:9-10 - Those who went in front and those who followed were shouting: "Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; 10 **Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David**; Hosanna in the highest!"

Luke 19:38 - shouting: "**BLESSED IS THE KING WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD**; Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

John 12:13 - (a large crowd) took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, **even the King of Israel.**"

The crowd's don't miss this moment. They know exactly what Jesus is claiming in this act. If you are entering Jerusalem on a donkey, you're identifying yourself with king Solomon, the first son of David to sit upon David's throne. It is a Messianic act.

WHERE THIS ALL HAPPENED:

We know that Solomon was anointed and proclaimed king "Gihon", an important spring outside of Jerusalem. It was located on the side of the mountain or at the base of the mountain Jerusalem is located on (Mount Moriah/Zion). This may be where the parallels between the two events end. Traditionally, Jesus' entry to Jerusalem has been pictured with Jesus entering the city proper and the crowds gathering as he rides on a donkey through the city streets.

But what does the Biblical text say?

Matthew 21:1-3, 6-10

- Jesus is on Mount of Olives when he requests the donkey
- His disciples bring the donkey to him
- The crowds go ahead of him and behind him
- Then he "entered Jerusalem" (v. 10)

Mark 11 - similar wording

Luke 19:28-30, 35-38

- **Luke 19:37-38 (ESV)** - As he was drawing near - already on the way down the Mount of Olives- the whole multitude of his disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, 38 saying, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

John 12:12-13

- Large crowd that was in Jerusalem for Passover, (v. 12) "went out to meet him..." (v. 13)

PROPHETIC FULFILLMENT

Lastly, this moment was prophesied about generations after Solomon and generations before Jesus. The prophet Zechariah called upon the people of God to keep their eyes open for the following:

Zechariah 9:9 - Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

This act of Jesus is more than just a casual Sunday donkey ride. Jesus was intentional in this act. He is, in his most dramatic and public act, claiming to be the Messiah, the King,

son of David. A new Solomon who will bring salvation. Jesus knew exactly what he was doing and the crowds understood it.

He is riding in on a donkey, being proclaimed as king, while another king, the Roman Caesar and ultimately Satan, the ruler of this age, are claiming the throne. He rides in, with the people shouting "long live the king."

When Solomon rode in as king, his enemy fled away and he took his rightful throne. When Jesus rode in as king, he was coming to conquer the enemy - sin and death - so that he could take his rightful throne - an eternal one. For only days later, the same crowds that shouted "Hosanna" would be yelling "crucify him".

Before Jesus could take over the world and rule on David's throne forever - the world's sin problem needed to be addressed. For without the sacrificial payment of Jesus' death on the cross, no one would be able to join in the eternal element of the kingdom of God. Before he comes to take the throne, he came and took his cross.

And so while the crowds of that day did not understand all that would happen, looking back we can see that for Jesus to fulfill all that the Messiah was prophesied to accomplish, he would first come as a servant and die for the sins of the world and then return again as king and rule on David's throne forever.

And return he will. And the scene of this event is a part of this final coming of the king as well.

Zechariah 14:3-4 - Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. 4 In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south.

Acts 1:9-12 - And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

Acts 1:12 - Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

Jesus has come as a gentle king to be received by his people. Those who accept his invitation and want his rule will turn to him. And he will come again and all the earth will bow before his throne. He will ride in again, but this time not on a donkey...

Revelation 19:11-16 – (Final) Coming Of The King

HOMEWORK

- Review notes from parts 3 & 4
- How did session 3 & 4 help your understanding of Jesus if at all?
- What were some of the elements involved in Solomon's anointing as king?
- What was Jesus doing when he rode towards Jerusalem on a donkey?
- Specifically review what the crowd said as Jesus rode towards Jerusalem. Do you see any connection in what they said with what we learned last week?
- Read Psalm 72, which is a Psalm David wrote about Solomon. Do you see the heart and destiny of Jesus in these verses as well?
- What are some questions that were raised in your own mind after parts 3 & 4?
- **Looking ahead:** Read 1 Kings 4