

Palm Sunday Matthew 21:1-11  
Who is this?

Just a short thought for us today, to lead us into Holy Week thinking about the passage from Matthew 21 Jesus' entry into Jerusalem

vs 1 at the Mount of Olives

according to Zechariah 14 this was the traditional location from where the Messiah is expected to appear

Then Jesus sends 2 disciples off to find the donkey and the colt saying  
The Lord needs them (vs 3)

Vs 5 talks about the entry of the King fulfilling the prophecy from Zechariah  
Zechariah 9:9 says Lo, your king comes to you;  
triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Vs 8 is a picture of a Messianic & triumphal entry  
Large crowd cloaks being spread on the floor along with branches

All this is happening in the midst of Messianic expectations  
The words describe though a very different king  
humble, gentle, peaceful, serving

Not a warhorse with a Roman governor arriving with the power and authority of the Empire

The crowds went ahead of Jesus & behind shouting Hosanna to the Son of David  
Hosanna means Save, I pray  
The crowds were shouting Hosanna / Save us to the Son of David  
Hosanna / Save us in the highest heavens

When they entered into the city of Jerusalem the city was in turmoil  
Word for turmoil = seiō which has the same root as the word for seismic  
the word turmoil here means shaken, tremble  
The whole city was shaken, trembling

Remember what happened at the point of Jesus death a few days later - there was literally an earthquake

When he, Jesus, entered Jerusalem, the city was in turmoil and asking 'Who is this?'  
What would your answer have been to that questions? (PAUSE)

At this point the answer comes back 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee'

Their answer will change, their understanding and reaction will change during the events of the coming week

When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'WHO IS THIS?'  
As we journey together through the events of the coming event, ask yourself the questions  
WHO IS THIS?  
Be honest with yourself and see what answers you give