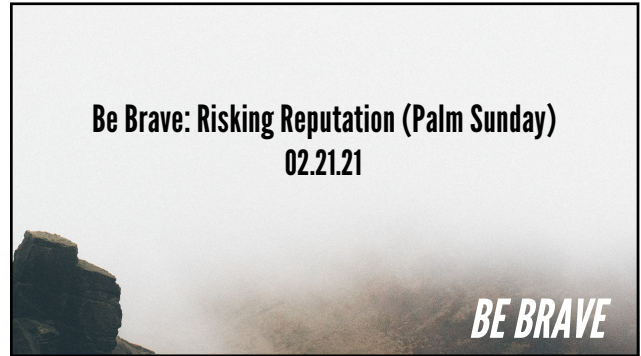
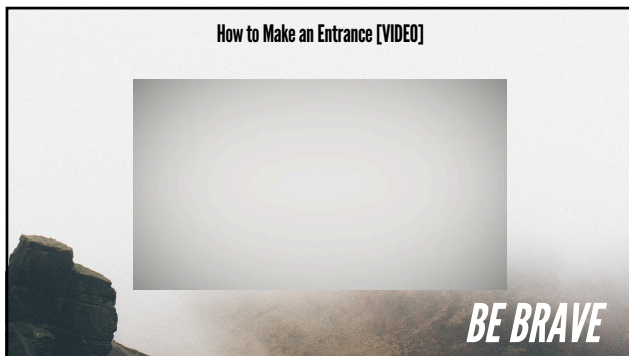


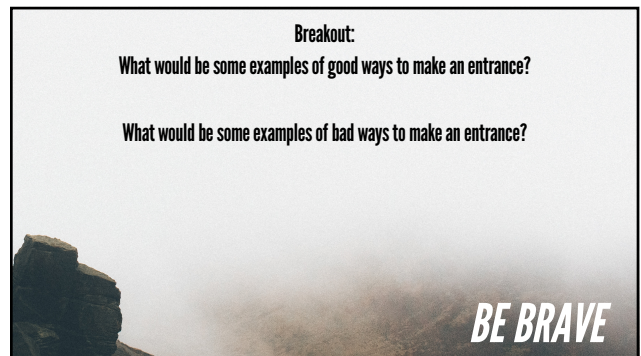
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2




3



4

How a King Makes an Entrance [VIDEO]



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5

Breakout:

What kind of reputation was the king establishing by this entrance?

What are some ways powerful/ renowned people today bolster reputation by their entrance?

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6

How Jesus Makes an Entrance - Matthew 21:1-11

21 Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

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7

Matthew 21:1-11

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. 8 Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

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8

Matthew 21:1-11

9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" 10 And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" 11 And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

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9

How Jesus Makes an Entrance [Video (4:35) - Justin Taylor]

10

How Jesus Makes an Entrance [VIDEO (9:30) - Amy-Jill Levine]***BE BRAVE***

11

In 63 BC Roman legions under Pompey had put an end to an independent Jewish state, conquering Jerusalem and deposing the King. Although Israel had returned from its exile in Babylon hundreds of years earlier, the golden age predicted by the prophets had not yet materialized. Instead Israel labored under the oppressive military dictatorship of a pagan nation. The Jews chafed under the yoke of Roman rule. Within 35 years after Jesus' death, Jews would be in full-scale rebellion against Rome, finally resulting in the catastrophic destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. In the meantime, Israel was a cauldron of unrest. Jews yearned for a messianic deliverer who would once and for all restore to Israel the throne of David and establish God's Kingdom in the land.

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12

Jesus is deliberately and provocatively claiming to be the promised king of Israel who will re-establish the throne of David. His action is like a living parable, acted out to disclose his true identity. The Messianic secret is now open news. The triumphal entry shows us Jesus' messianic self-consciousness and who he took himself to be. He identified himself with the Shepherd-King predicted by Zechariah.

BE BRAVE

13

The point was not lost on the crowd. People began to spread their cloaks on the road for Jesus to ride over like a red carpet, an action reminiscent of the way the crowds spread their cloaks on the ground in 2 Kings 9.13 when Jehu was anointed King of Israel. They cut palm branches or other leafy plants as Jews did at other celebrations and festivals and strewed them in Jesus' path. And then people, perhaps remembering how the blind Bartimaeus back in Jericho had repeatedly cried out Psalm 118.25-26 to Jesus as the "Son of David," now begin to chant the words of "Hosanna! (or God saves!) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" and others respond, "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

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14

The Jews were expecting a king who would be a great military leader like David, who would throw off the yoke of Rome, and establish God's kingdom by force. When we read some of the Old Testament prophecies, we can understand why they had such expectations; they weren't at all unreasonable. But Jesus was radically different than their expectations. When he rode into Jerusalem, he did not do so on a horse, the symbol of warfare and the choice of conquerors, as Pompey had done. He did not even pick a mule, the steed of Jewish kings like David himself. Rather, he chose a donkey, a pack animal, a lowly beast of burden, as his royal mount. As Zechariah had prophesied, he came humbly and bringing peace. The Kingdom of God which he preached and inaugurated was not an earthly, political kingdom, but the rule of God in the hearts of people who know and serve Him. But this was not the kingdom which the people expected or wanted, and so they rejected Jesus as their Lord.

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15

- What did Jesus' entrance say about who he is?
- What has become clearer to you over your life about who Jesus is?
- What did Jesus' entrance say about who is not?
- What has become clearer to you over your life about who Jesus is not?
- In what ways did Jesus contradict expectations about his reputation? In what ways has he done this with you?
- What are some ways in which we might imitate the way Jesus made an entrance? As churches? As individuals?

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16