

Series: An Easter You'll Never Forget; Sermon: **How to Find Peace**  
Delivered on April 14, 2019, by **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor

**Bible text explored: Luke 19:28–44**

<sup>28</sup>And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.  
<sup>29</sup>When he drew near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mount that is called Olivet, he sent two of the disciples, <sup>30</sup>saying, “Go into the village in front of you, where on entering you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever yet sat. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>31</sup>If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ you shall say this: ‘The Lord has need of it.’” <sup>32</sup>So those who were sent went away and found it just as he had told them. <sup>33</sup>And as they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, “Why are you untying the colt?” <sup>34</sup>And they said, “The Lord has need of it.” <sup>35</sup>And they brought it to Jesus, and throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. <sup>36</sup>And as he rode along, they spread their cloaks on the road. <sup>37</sup>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, <sup>38</sup>saying, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” <sup>39</sup>And some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples.” <sup>40</sup>He answered, “I tell you, if these were silent, the very stones would cry out.”

<sup>41</sup>And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, <sup>42</sup>saying, “Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. <sup>43</sup>For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side <sup>44</sup>and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation.” [ESV]

**Review and application:**

1. What discovery did Pastor Josh says could make this Palm Sunday unforgettable? How does this mesh with Gospel writer Luke’s aim in narrating the story of Jesus’ triumphal entry? (See *Luke 1:4*.)

The name of the city Jesus and his disciples were entering is significant:  
*Jeru* = foundation or possession; *Salem* = peace.

2. What does the English word *peace* convey? What broader meanings does the Hebrew word *shalom* carry?
3. What psalm phrases (v. 37) were Jesus’ disciples shouting as they entered the city? (See *Psa. 118:22-27*.) What failure of comprehension by the city’s rulers and residents (v. 42) drove Jesus to tears?

We can find peace (vv. 29-38) through what we praise. Jesus was deliberately fulfilling the messianic prediction of *Zech. 9:9-10*.

4. How did the actions of the two unnamed disciples’ praise God? How did a “multitude” of Jesus’ disciples praise him with biblically based cheers? How could we, as onlookers did for an intimidated fireman on a ladder, “cheer up” someone to find real peace?

We can find peace through what or whom (vv. 39-40) we listen to.

5. Do we listen to those who suppress guilt by a show of their own morality?  
How did Jesus equate the self-justifying objections of the Pharisees with the Babylonians, against whom Habakkuk prophesied? (See *Hab. 2:9-11.*)
6. How is listening to God's Word every day like priming a pump to restore a flow of living water?

We can find peace when we decide (vv. 41-44).

Pastor Josh quoted Teddy Roosevelt: "In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing . . . the worst thing you can do is nothing."

7. What was Jesus' emotional response to those who had resisted their opportunity to accept salvation?  
What outcome (fulfilled in A.D. 70) did he foresee for those who opposed his rule?
8. Pastor Josh warned that it is possible to say no to God's gift of peace so often that he will finally decide to take us at our word. What outcome will that involve?  
(See *Matt. 25:31-33, 46.*)