

The arrival of the King into town.

News: Our King has arrived in Jerusalem, he will save us from the authority and let us be free.

“Then they bought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it.” Mark 11 v7

There were unusual scenes on the road to Jerusalem today, branches of palm trees being waved, cloaks lain on the floor and a young donkey walking over them, on the back of this donkey there was a man.

He was a clever man, people called him Rabbi or teacher. He was a man who had a history of lateral thinking, he seemed to have the world at his feet, who could be better to be a king?

“Hosanna,” they were crying. “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord”

They were expecting great things of this man, they thought he was a revolutionary. People thought that he could bring an end to Roman control. The excitement was electrifying, you could feel it in the air as it quickly spread throughout the city.

Even though there was such excitement but not everyone was overjoyed. Some of his own people, the Jewish Priests didn't like what he said and did.

This man worked on the Sabbath day healing the sick. No one was supposed to work on the Sabbath Day.

This man called God his father, “surely,” the Jewish priests thought, “that this was blasphemous.”

They had tried to trick this man on many occasions. They asked to him about paying taxes, should people pay taxes to Caesar? Jesus had an answer that they weren't expecting, he asked them to look at the coin and say whose head was on it. Caesar's they replied. He answered,

“So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.” Matt 22 v21b.

These people wanted him out of the way.

On arriving in Jerusalem, this man visited the Temple and found people using the place like a market square. There was robbery and money dealing going on. This obviously upset this man and he cleared the Temple overturning tables and saying that the place had been turned into a den of robbers. He seemed to cause more disruption than there had been before.

Who is this man?

What is he doing?

Why does he think he can behave in this way?

The people on the street were spellbound. They were

These are only questions that can be answered in time. At present he seems like a loose cannon and we don't know what is going to happen next. Will he set us free from the Roman Empire? Will this man be our King?

The next few days will be a sensitive time, the Jewish festival of Passover is almost here this is a sacred time in the Jewish year as it is a time when the Jews were in exile in Egypt. Moses, the slaves' leader knew that plagues were coming and that the people had to act quickly so painted their front doors with lambs' blood and the plagues passed over the people.

The Priest will not want any disruption to that. If this man does anything during that time, he is likely to make himself unpopular and then what will happen?

Hope you enjoyed this first instalment of the Easter story...look out for the next instalment on.....

Margaret Young
Volunteer Chaplain, Wythenshawe Campus