

## PALM SUNDAY

John 11:47-12:16

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1. 11:47 The Pharisees and the Sadducees did not get along. But despite their differences, they shared a common hatred for Jesus.
2. 11:48 That Jesus' most bitter enemies did not deny the miracles is convincing proof of their authenticity.
3. 11:48 The leaders did not understand that Jesus had zero political ambitions and had no intention of becoming an earthly king.
4. 11:49 The high priest was supposed to serve for life, but by the first century, the office was heavily politicized. Rome frequently removed high priests who displeased them.
5. 11:49 Caiaphas, frustrated by indecision, proposed a ruthless solution, in keeping with his character.
6. 11:51-52 God allowed the ruthless actions of the leaders to be part of a bigger plan.
7. 11:53 The decision to kill Jesus was made well before His arrest and trial.
8. 11:57 God is steadfast, determined; nothing prevents His plans. He accomplishes all His purposes (Psalm 86:5).
9. 12:12 The leaders, afraid of the reaction of the crowd, wanted to put Jesus to death, but not during Passover (Matthew 26:3-5).
10. 12:13 Palm branches were a general symbol of victory and celebration.
11. Lk 19:41-44 Jesus cried over the city because they were not paying attention to what was right in front of them.
12. 12:14-15 In the Middle East a donkey was not a despised creature, but a noble one. When a king rode to war, he rode on a horse. When a king came in peace, he rode a donkey (1 Kings 1:33).

13. 12:16 The crowd were not the only ones who failed to grasp what was happening. Not until the Holy Spirit arrived (after Jesus' resurrection and ascension) did the disciples remember and understand (John 7:39).
14. Just as Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies regarding His first coming, He will also fulfill them when He comes again in judgment.
15. He will come in glory, and the armies of heaven will accompany Him. It will be a scene of victory as He comes to defeat His enemies and to establish His kingdom.

## HEBREW WORDS

**Yasha`** (yaw-shah')—to be free, to be safe; defend, deliver, rescue, get victory

## QUOTES

“The behavior of the Sadducees one toward another is in some degree wild, and their conduct with those who are of their own party is as barbarous as if they were strangers to them....” ~Josephus, first-century historian

“Man with his breath of threatening is but blowing the trumpet of the Lord's eternal fame.... The devil blows the fire and melts the iron, and then the Lord fashions it for his own purposes.” ~Charles H. Spurgeon, 1885

