

What Is It About Jesus That You're Looking For?
Luke 19:34-40 & 14:25-35

That first "Palm Sunday" Jesus entered Jerusalem to the shouts and praise of many. Yet, but a week later, most of these same people will be cursing and condemning Him, and His disciples would be running and hiding for their very lives. What happened? I believe it had everything to do with _____, _____, and the _____.

I. Wrong Views of Christ

1. Those Who Want a _____, But Not a _____.

When Jesus entered Jerusalem that first "Palm Sunday", the Israelites were looking for a _____, but not the "kind" that Jesus offered. They were looking for a _____, someone to rid them of the Romans and usher in an era of peace and prosperity. They wanted a "savior", not someone who would hold them _____.

What are people looking for today in Jesus, the church? In a survey by Win Arn, members of nearly 1000 churches were asked, "Why does the church exist?" _____ said the church exists "to take care of my family's and my needs." _____ of the pastors of those same churches said the church exists, "to win the world to Christ." (*The Purpose Driven Church*, Rick Warren, pg 82)

Too many want "fire insurance" (the promise of Heaven), but don't want the _____, the _____, and the _____ that go with it.

Question: If Christ is not truly _____ of your life, can you really expect Him to be your _____? (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; Luke 6:46)

2. Those Who Want _____, Not a _____ or _____.

What did Israel's religious leaders, who were supposed to know and teach God's Word, do when confronted with Jesus Christ (Messiah)?

Genuine Christianity is not a "religion" per se; it is a _____ with the God of the Bible. The world is full of religion; it is starved for _____. Tradition and rituals more often than not _____ us, and even _____ genuine worship of and fellowship with God.

3. Those Who _____ In the Savior, But Are _____ by the Cross.

Christ's true disciples were taught by Jesus, traveled with Him, saw His works and miracles, and professed _____, but they didn't fully _____ Him and what He was about.

How many come to faith in Christ, but become _____ when trials, troubles, and tribulations come their way? When hard, difficult times come, what happens to many who want a _____, but struggle to _____ with Him as He _____?

II. The Jesus We Should Be Seeking (Luke 14:25-33)

The calling God makes on our lives, the call to _____, to be a true disciple, is not an easy one. At its very heart, God's calling is very, very _____. Have you counted the cost of _____, have you counted the cost of the _____ in your life?

Every Christian's Cross

"The cross is laid on every Christian. The first Christ-suffering which every person must experience is the call to abandon the attachments of this world. It is that dying of the old person which is the result of our encounter with Christ. As we embark upon discipleship we surrender ourselves to Christ in union with his death - we give over our lives to death. Thus it begins; the cross is not the terrible end to an otherwise God-fearing and happy life, but it meets us at the beginning of our communion with Christ. When Christ calls us, he bids us come and die. It may be a death like that of the first disciples who had to leave home and work to follow him, or it may be a death like Luther's, who had to leave the monastery and go out into the world. But it is the same death every time - death in Jesus Christ, the death of the old person at his call." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer -

It's been rightly said that the Cross of Christ is not _____.

Conclusion and Application:

Jesus Christ is both Savior and Lord; in a very real sense, He comes as a "package deal" (Note v. 14:27 & 33). Have you decided to walk with Jesus? If you will not (not "cannot") commit to "walking in the manner in which you were called", do not *expect* Jesus to walk with you.

Why walk with Him? (1) We're _____ to; (2) It is our source of _____ and _____; and (3) It is our source of _____ and _____ in uncertain times.

Only when Christ is _____, can your life be _____. And only when you "*walk worthy of the calling with which you were called*" (Ephesians 4:2) can you truly slay the "giants" in your life.

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