THE KING OF PEACE

And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way; others cut down branches from the trees, and strawed *them* in the way. Matt 21:8 (KJV)

This passage is taken from Matthew’s account of the “Triumphal Entry.” Jesus rode into Jerusalem a week before Easter. His ride was upon an ass’s colt. This was significant of his peaceful entry into Jerusalem. He knew what lay ahead of him. He knew he would be betrayed, arrested and finally crucified. Nevertheless he came peacefully into the city that he loved and prayed over; the city that would rise up against him crying for his crucifixion. The ass was what a king would ride in time of peace. He might even ride on an ass or a mule when returning into a city after a victory. Though the greatest battle ever to be fought lay before him, Christ still entered the battle ground on a symbol of peace. He did not come with sword drawn but rather with arms outstretched. While being rejected by Jerusalem he came peacefully to them still ready to receive them if they desired him in a saving way.

His entry was also significant of his reign and rule. “All this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, **5** Tell ye the daughter of Sion, Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, meek, and sitting upon an ass, and a colt the foal of an ass.” Matt 21:4-5 (KJV). The cry of the great multitude that followed him that day was “Hosanna to the son of David.” Hosanna meaning “save now.” They found this king was approachable. He knew them and cared for them. Though he was meek, not a war-hawk, they still honored and magnified him. They took their garments and palm branches and paved the way for his colt to walk as Jesus entered his city of doom. Today we will see flower girls preceding the bride as she comes down the aisle to be married. They will often spread flower pedals all along the path that the bride will walk, hopefully signifying that her marriage will be one of peace. His reign is one of peace. He reigns in our hearts and lives as peace. At the same time he is promoting peace in our lives.

In nineteen sixty-eight, this King of Peace moved into my heart. I have never been the same. In my heart there is an abiding peace that rules my life. That does not mean that I live a perfect life but if I were perfectly obedient to this King of Peace I could have a perfect life. No, I have not become totally submissive to my Lord. It is like this. I am a citizen of the United States. From time to time I have broken some laws. Still I am governed by the United States. She is my country. Christ is my king, though I am not perfect, he is my king and I serve him proudly!

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram