

A wooden cross is positioned on the right side of the image, set against a background of green palm fronds and a brown burlap texture. The text 'PALM SUNDAY' is written in white, serif, all-caps font on the left side.

PALM
SUNDAY

Matthew 21:1-5 And when they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,
2. saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them, and bring them to Me.
3. "And if anyone says something to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." 4. Now this took place that what was spoken through the prophet might be fulfilled (Zech. 9:9 500 yrs. earlier) , saying,
5. "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

Matthew 21:6-11 And the disciples went and did just as Jesus had directed them,

7. and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid on them their garments, on which He sat.

8. And most of the multitude spread their garments in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees, and spreading them in the road.

9. And the multitudes going before Him, and those who followed after were crying out, saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!"

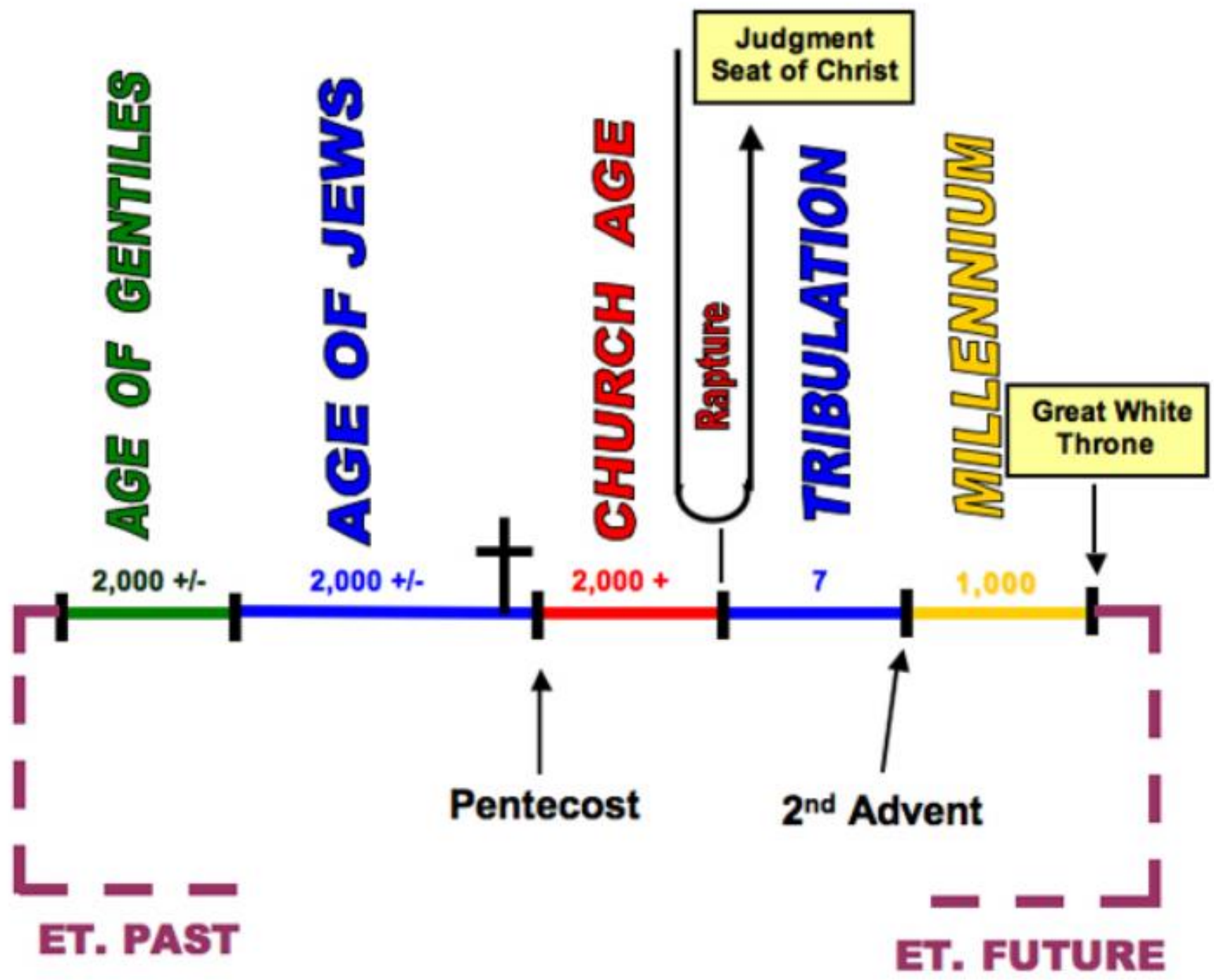
10. And when He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?"

11. And the multitudes were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee."

Zechariah 9:9 *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout in triumph, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; He is just and endowed with salvation, Humble, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*

You may notice that Matthew 21:5 omitted the words in red. Why? Because our Lord was not coming into Jerusalem for rejoicing and He was not coming triumphantly. That will take place at His 2nd Advent. He came as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world.

Why did he come on a donkey instead of a horse? The small donkey was the animal of peace while a horse was the animal of war. When He comes back to make war at the 2nd Advent, he will be riding a majestic white horse (Rev. 19:11).



Matthew 21:8 And most of the multitude spread their garments in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees, and spreading them in the road.



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Why were they cutting branches from the trees and spreading them on the pathway of Jesus?

Isaiah 6:12-13 The LORD has removed men far away, And the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.

13) "Yet there will be a tenth portion in it, And it will again be subject to burning (discipline), Like a terebinth or an oak Whose **stump remains when it is felled. The holy seed is its stump.**"

Because of Israel's rebellion, they would go into captivity to Babylon. Yet a remnant would return (10%). The remnant was like a stump that remains after a tree is cut down. "**The holy seed**", (the line of Christ), is represented by the stump.

Isaiah 10:33 Behold, the Lord GOD of hosts will lop the boughs with terrifying power; the great in height will be hewn down, and the lofty will be brought low. ³⁴ He will cut down the thickets of the forest with an axe, and Lebanon will fall by the Majestic One. Isaiah 11:1 **There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.** ² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. ³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, ⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth (Rev. 19:15), and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked (Isa. 30:33, 2 Thes. 2:8).



It's normal for a shoot to sprout up from a stump which can grow to produce branches and fruit. The line of Christ would come from David whose father was **Jesse** which is represented by the **stump**.

The "**branch**" is used as another name for Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Isaiah 4:2 In that day the **branch of the LORD** shall be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land shall be the pride and honor of the survivors of Israel.

Jeremiah 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when **I will raise up for David a righteous Branch**, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Jeremiah 33:15 In those days and at that time I will cause a **righteous Branch to spring up for David**, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

Zechariah 3:8 ...I will bring **my servant the Branch**.

Zechariah 6:12 'Thus says the LORD of hosts, "**Behold, the man whose name is the Branch...**"

The Jewish people knew about these verses and that's why they were putting branches in the path of Jesus Christ as He entered Jerusalem.

But why do we call this day "Palm Sunday"? Where the branches they used palm branches? The scriptures do not say but it could be because of Revelation 7:9.

Revelation 7:9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, **with palm branches in their hands,**

Matthew 21:9 And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the **Son of David!** Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" (This is quoted from Psalm 118:24-26)

"**Son of David**" is another name for Jesus Christ.

Psalm 118:24-26 This is the day which the LORD has made; Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

25. O LORD, **do save, we beseech** Thee; O LORD, we beseech Thee, do send prosperity!

26. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD; We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.

do save, we beseech - Translated YASHA NA in the Hebrew which means "SAVE NOW". Translated in Greek is as ὡσαννά - HOSANNA.

They wanted the crown without the cross. They didn't see Jesus as the Messiah who would pay the penalty for their sins and give them eternal life. They saw Him as the One who would deliver them from the domination of Rome.

Psalm 118:24-26 pertain to Jesus' triumphant return at the 2nd Advent when He will save the Jews from extinction and begin His millennial reign.

Psalm 118:22-23 is what they should have been declaring because these are the verses that pertain to the 1st Advent when Christ voluntarily become the sacrifice for our sins.

Psalm 118:22-23 The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. 23) This was the LORD's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes.

Matthew 21:42 quotes Psalm 118:22-23

Matthew 21:42-43 Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The **stone** which the builders rejected Has become the **chief cornerstone**. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes'? 43) "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation (generation / people) bearing the fruits of it.

The **stone** is a Messianic title for Jesus Christ who is the **chief cornerstone** for Israel. The builders were unbelievers, especially the leaders of Israel who rejected Christ. God would temporarily take the kingdom of God from Israel and give it to another generation of Israel in the future.

So it is clear that these verses refer to the 1st Advent, and would be appropriate for the people to declare when Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

Interesting:

Psalm 118 is the chapter found in the middle of the Bible, Verse eight is in the verse in the middle as well.

Psalm 118:8 It is better to trust in the LORD Than to put confidence in man.

Psalm 117 is the shortest chapter in the Bible and Psalm 119 is the longest.

It is amazing to find that **Daniel 9:24-26** foretold the very day that Jesus Christ would enter Jerusalem on a donkey which we call “Palm Sunday”.

Daniel 9:24-26 Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, To finish the transgression, To make an end of sins, To make reconciliation for iniquity, To bring in everlasting righteousness, To seal up vision and prophecy, And to anoint the Most Holy.

25) "Know therefore and understand, **That from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks (483 yrs);** The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times.

26) "And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; And the people of the prince who is to come Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end of the war desolations are determined.

So what about this command?

from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince...

Where can one find the place where the command to restore and build Jerusalem can be found?

Nehemiah 2:1-8 And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes...

Nehemiah was given permission to return to Jerusalem to restore and rebuild it. This was 444 B.C., 483 years to the day, Jesus Christ rode a donkey colt into Jerusalem as they hailed Him as the Son of David who comes in the name of the Lord.