

SPIRITUAL REFLECTIONS

[Pastor Gene Henderson with edits by Pastor Pier]

Didn't see that coming. Happens a few times in our lives, doesn't it? And it happened in a big way to Jesus' family and friends.

Jesus explodes to prominence right out of the gate. Follows the whole town to the river where His cousin John is preaching and baptizing. In spite of John's protests, He steps into the water for His turn. But His baptism creates a scene – a Voice from Heaven, a Dove on His shoulder. ***Time for a career change.*** He locks the shop and walks into the desert for six weeks of soul-searching. When He returns, He strolls into the synagogue and states He's the guy Isaiah the prophet predicted. ***They didn't see that coming.*** Didn't go over well in His home town.

But in the surrounding towns' response is off the charts because of His radical teachings and His unbelievable healing ability. The crowds build. So, ***He goes on a recruiting tour, and ends up with an eclectic group of small businessmen who, just like Him, opt for a career change.*** Crowds cover the hillsides to hear Him. Takes a security blanket of His posse to protect Him from the masses who seek just a touch of His magic power. For 18 months His star rises. But when He cuts back on the miracles, the crowds thin. Has to be a message in there... but ***the disciples didn't see that coming.***

Another eighteen months pass while He concentrates on training His followers. They get to see what the crowds are missing – an incredible guy with mind-blowing promise. He's definitely the One. Except that very few outside the circle see what they see.

Until they head to Jerusalem for Passover. As the pilgrims wind through the hills whispers turn to murmurs. Murmurs turn to recognition. ***Recognition turns to acclimation and the procession morphs into a full-fledged parade. They did not see that coming.***

People still today do not see it coming. They ignore Jesus to their own peril not realizing what He offers. Even worse are the Christians that are ignoring the signs of the times. ***Jesus is coming soon! This Palm Sunday let's open our eyes and see Jesus for who He really is!***

Welcome!

April 13th, 2025



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM

Unity in Prayer: 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club

Prayer ½ hour before services



SERMON NOTES

HOSANNA

TEXT: Luke 19:28-40

Palm Sunday is about giving proper _____ to the Lord!

I. _____
 His _____ is displayed. Zachariah 9:9:
 He seeks _____ – this has always been His pattern – no one is ever forced to receive Jesus, no one is ever forced to love Him, no is _____ into obeying Him!

II. _____
 Salvation is one of the great unnoticed of the greatest _____ of all!

III. _____
 The stones are those who would come to faith and will not have a concern for the _____ of men!
 The stones are those have learned that silence is often _____.

The stones are those who have the Spirit of God in them, and they have learned that to quench the Spirit, or to put out the Spirit's flame is to allow an attitude of _____!

The stones are those who live with the mindset that _____ is a counter response to the sinful culture that daily tries to invade our lives!

The stones are those who _____ the Word of God _____ us to reject mere religious behavior, mere ceremonialism, and those who promote the lifting up of people above the knowledge of Jesus Christ!



Wednesday Bible Study – we continue our study of the Rapture of the church.

Flagging Practice has begun again on Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM. For more information, please see Debbie DeVries.

Capital Section Spring Event – Ladies – May 17th, 10 AM to 2 PM. Location: Capital Church, 1222 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Niskayuna, NY. Cost is \$25 per person and must be in by April 27th. For more information see Caroline Zeyak.

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