

John 12 : 12-26—Memory Verses, 12, 13.

**Golden Text**—Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.—Matt. 21 : 9.

## THE LESSON RETOLD



The morning after Simon's feast, Jesus sent two of His disciples to borrow an ass's colt for Him from a friend, that He might ride into Jerusalem. At this time the roads were thronged with Passover visitors. When it became known that Jesus, the great prophet from Nazareth, of whose miracles everyone was talking, was on His way, great crowds of people started out from Jerusalem to meet Him, taking with them branches cut from the palm trees, which were always carried at times of special thanksgiving and rejoicing.

At the first sight of the Saviour the crowd broke at once into cheers, shouting, "Hosanna : Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord." And surrounding Jesus as He rode, they brought Him with great shouting and rejoicing and waving of branches as far as the temple.

It was not until after the Saviour's death, that the disciples remembered, in reading the book of Zechariah, how that prophet had foretold exactly that Jesus, before His death, should ride in state to Jerusalem. Zechariah's words were, "Fear not, daughter of Zion : behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt."

Among the thousands of people who came to worship in Jerusalem at this time, was a company of Greeks, who, hearing of Jesus, were anxious to meet Him. These men now called Philip, one of the disciples, aside, and asked if he would introduce them to his master. Philip was not sure that Jesus would wish at this time to be interrupted by strangers, but, after asking Andrew what should be done, they together went and told Jesus the wish of these strangers.

At once Jesus explained to them, as well as to the people who stood listening, that the time was near when He, the Saviour of all, should give up His life for the sin of all nations in the world.

Many of those who had seen Jesus that morning, as He was followed by the cheering crowds, had thought of making Him king, but the Master now told them plainly that He must die. "We know," said Jesus, "how it is with a grain of wheat. If it is kept too carefully, it remains as it is; but if it falls into the ground and dies, it becomes the beginning of many new grains. So is it in My kingdom. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."

By this saying Jesus did not promise that His followers should always have an easy time, but to His new friends, as well as to those who had long been with Him, He now said, "If any man will serve Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there shall also My servant be : if any man serve Me, him will My Father honor."

## QUESTIONS ON THE LESSON

1. Where did Jesus go from Bethany ? Him honor ? 5. Why was Jerusalem so
2. How did He travel ? 3. Who met Him crowded at this time ? 6. Who asked
- on the way ? 4. How did the people show Philip to introduce them to Jesus ? 7.