

**16. Have ye never read.**—Are ye not familiar with the Scriptures? Have ye not seen that the praise due to the Lord has not been perfected in the Temple worship and in the hearts of his chosen people? Therefore when these children, from their very hearts, bring a perfect praise to the King of Kings should ye find fault?

**The triumphal procession.**

“Two vast streams of people met on that day. The one poured out from the city, and as they came through the gardens, whose clusters of palm rose on the southern corner of Olivet, they cut down the long branches, as was their wont at the Feast of Tabernacles, and moved upwards toward Bethany with loud shouts of welcome.

From Bethany streamed forth the crowds who had assembled there on the previous night, and who came testifying to the great event at the sepulchre of Lazarus.

The road soon loses sight of Bethany. It is now a rough, but still broad, and well-defined, mountain track, winding over rock and loose stones. A steep declivity below on the left, and sloping shoulder of Olivet above on the right, fig-trees below and above, here and there growing out of the rocky soil.

Along the road, the multitudes threw down the branches which they cut as they went along, or spread out a rude matting, formed by the palm-branches they had already cut as they came. The larger portion, those, perhaps, who escorted him from Bethany, unwrapped their loose cloaks from their shoulders, and stretched them along the rude path, to form a momentary carpet as he approached.

The two streams met mid-way. Half of the vast mass, turning round, preceded; the other half followed. Gradually the long procession swept up and over the ridge where first begins the descent of the Mount of Olives, toward Jerusalem.

At this point the first view is caught of the south-eastern corner of the city. The Temple, and the more northern portions, are hidden by the slope of Olivet on the right; what is seen is only Mount Zion, now for the most part a rough field, crowned with the Mosque of David, and the angle of the Western wall, but then covered with houses to its base, surmounted by the Castle of Herod, and on the supposed site of the palace of David, from which that portion

of Jerusalem, emphatically, “the City of David,” derived its name.

It was at this precise point, as he drew near at the descent of the Mount of Olives—may it not have been from the sight thus opening upon them—that the shout of triumph burst forth from the multitude, “Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord, blessed is the kingdom of our father David. Hosanna, peace, glory in the highest.” There was a pause as the shout rang through the long defile, and as the Pharisees, who stood by in the crowd, complained, he pointed to the stones, which, strewn beneath their feet, would immediately “cry out” if “these were to hold their peace.”

Again the procession advanced. The road descends a slight declivity, and the glimpse of the city is again withdrawn behind the intervening ridge of Olivet. A few moments, and the path mounts again, it climbs a rugged ascent, it reaches a ledge of smooth rock, and in an instant the whole city burst into view.”

—Dr. Thompson.

**BIBLE SEARCH LIGHTS.**

6. In what other gospels is this lesson found? (See Mark 11, Luke 19 and John 12.) What event immediately preceded this lesson? Matt. 21:1-5; 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-4 and John 12:2-8.

7-8. What was customary when a King entered a city? 2 Kings 9:13. What prophecy was fulfilled by the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem? Zech. 9:9.

9. What is the meaning of the word Hosanna? Psalm 118:2-6. With what words was the advent of the Saviour to the world heralded? Luke 2:14.

10. What did the Pharisees say about the popularity of Jesus? John 12:19.

11. Why was Jesus called the Prophet of Nazareth? Matt. 2:23; Luke 7:16; John 6:14; John 7:40-42.

12. What other Gospels tell us concerning the cleansing of the Temple? Mark 11:12-19; Luke 19:45-46. When did the Saviour cleanse the temple before? John 2:16-17.

13. Why was the Temple called the House of Prayer? Luke 1:9-10; Acts 3:1. What did Jeremiah say about polluting the Temple? Jer. 7:11.