

WORDS OF PROPHECY: “HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!”

Mark 11:1–11

While the Old Testament promised that God would one day dwell again with his people, ruling them perfectly, justly, and eternally, Mark announces that that time has come. John the Baptist knew Jesus Christ was the fulfillment of this anticipation (1:7–8). His identity was affirmed by God at his baptism (1:11), confirmed by Satan in his temptations (1:13), and recognized by demons in his ministry (1:24; 3:11). Throughout this gospel account, Jesus’s royal authority is displayed in sickness healing, law interpreting, creation controlling, spirit exercising, disciple calling, and sin forgiving. And Christ himself wasn’t subtle, saying that, “The kingdom of God is at hand” (1:15) and revealing “mysteries of the kingdom of God” (4:11, 26, 30). God’s people had been waiting centuries for a divine monarch, one who would deliver them, unite them, redeem them, and save them. And the first ten chapters of Mark declare with a choir of voices and a crescendo of clarity: “Jesus is that king!” But how will this Ruler be received?

An Appropriate Inauguration

- Authority 11:2–7

- Divinity 11:2–3; cp. 2:6–8; 14:13–16
Hum. 19:2; Deut. 21:3; 1 Sam. 6:7

- Prophecy 11:7, 9–10; cf. Zech. 9:9

An Inappropriate Reception

11:8, 10–11; cf. 10:46–52

Receive Jesus Rightly!

WORDS AROUND THE CROSS

February–April 2025

February 23	“Words of Mercy: ‘Father, Forgive Them’”	Luke 23:34
March 9	“Words of Destiny: ‘You Shall Be With Me’”	Luke 23:43
March 16	“Words of Sympathy: ‘Behold, Your Son’”	John 19:26–27
March 23	“Words of Misery: ‘Why Have You Forsaken Me?’”	Matthew 27:46
March 30	“Words of Frailty: ‘I Am Thirsty’”	John 19:28
April 6	“Words of Tranquility: ‘I Commit My Spirit’”	Luke 23:46
April 11*	“Words of Prophecy: ‘Hosanna in the Highest!’”	Mark 11:1–11
April 18†	“Words of Certainty: ‘It is Finished!’”	John 19:30
April 20‡	“Words of Victory: ‘He has Risen!’”	Luke 24:1–12

* Palm Sunday

† Good Friday

‡ Easter Sunday