

### Tapped Out From Spiritual Highs And Lows

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly." They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the

highest!"

Mark 11:1-9

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Now it was the custom at the Feast to release a prisoner whom the people requested. A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. The crowd came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, knowing it was out of envy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them. "Crucify him!" they shouted."Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify him!" Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them.

Mark 15:6-15

### Be Careful When All You Hear And See Is Good

### Wisdom Teaches Us

- People praise YOU because you please THEM!
- People get caught up in the "crowd"
- This crowd wanted deliverance from Romans
- Some were excited because He could help and heal
- Jesus KNEW there was more than what He heard

<u>Jude 1:16</u> "These men (ungodly, self-serving men) are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage."

## Set Your Heart On Pleasing God, Not Man

- Who do you serve?
- Serve from the heart.
- Audience of One
- Pay the Price
- God First

Gal 1:10 1 Thess 2:4 Prov 29:25 John 12:42-43 Acts 5:29

Jesus never let Himself be swayed by the praise or accusations of others. He simply served the Father.

### **Train Yourself To Look Beyond The Praise And Pain Of People To the Purpose of God**

<u>Heb 12:2</u> "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

<u>Luke 9:51</u> " And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, <u>he steadfastly set</u> <u>his face to go to Jerusalem</u>..."

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#### Jesus Pursued God's Purpose For Him

- Purpose of God:
- Submission to God:

John 10:18 John 19:11

- Accepted Pain with Purpose:
  - **Betrayal of Judas**
  - **Denial of Peter**
  - Lonliness of being let down in Garden Isolation of the Cross

# **My Challenge For Today**

- Be Careful: Don't believe the press...Positive or negative!
- Seek To Please God...Not Others
- Look Beyond Praise or Pain To God's Purpose For YOU!