John 12: The King of Israel

Lesson Theme: Man's Attempts to Rebuke God's Plans Will Always Prove Futile

Matthew 16:21-23-

From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"

But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

John 12:1-11: Anointing the Feet of Jesus

1. Mary honored Jesus as Messiah with very costly oil of spikenard six days before the Passover (John 12:1-3)

Genesis 1:26-31—Sixth day of Creation

Psalm 45:6-9 — Messianic King

Genesis 8:20-21—"soothing aroma" (Hebrew: רֵיחַ "ray-akh") pointing to a sacrifice pleasing to God

Song of Songs 1:12-

"While the king is at his table,

My spikenard sends forth its fragrance" (Hebrew: יֵיחַ "ray-akh").

2. Judas dishonored Mary's sacrifice, thereby dishonoring the One for whom it was for. But Jesus recognized Mary's offering, rebuked Judas, and gave him another opportunity to repent (John 12:4-8).

Genesis 4:4b-8—God's response to Abel vs. Cain's offering, and Cain's decision to murder Abel

3. The Jewish religious leaders demonstrate their jealousy leading to insanity by plotting to put Lazarus to death also (John 12:9-11).

Matthew 6:22-23-

"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"

John 12:15-50: Hosanna!

4. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on a donkey foreshadows His return to the earth on a white horse (see Revelation 19:11-13), thereby showing Himself as the Messianic King of Israel (John 12:12-19).

Prince of Peace-donkey (Israel rejects Jesus as Messiah) Man of War-white horse (Israel receives Jesus as Messiah)

"Hosanna!" From Psalm 118:25—"Save now (Hebrew: "Hosanna"), I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity."

The Jews cried out: "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!" (Psalm 118:26) both on that day and will on the day of His return to the earth. (Cont. next page)

Matthew 24:37-39-

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; for I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' " Hebrew: בְּרוֹךְ הַבָּא בְּשִׁם יְהוָה "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

5. The Pharisees knew prophetically what all this meant. They still refused to repent and believe, thus rejecting the Christ, their one and only Messiah, during His first coming (John 12:19).

Zechariah 9:9-

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey."

6. Jesus' message of salvation had gone out to the Gentile world—this is why the Greeks came to see Him. This indicated to Jesus that His hour had come to be glorified. Jesus' death on the cross would be salvation for the whole world (John 12:20-26).

Revelation 1:17-18-

And when I (the apostle John) saw Him (the glorified Jesus Christ), I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

7. Jesus chose to bring glory to the Father by laying down His life. Jesus' atoning work on the cross would be Satan's casting out (John 12:27-33).

Though Satan lost his position when Jesus died on the cross, it will not be until the 7th trumpet sounds at the mid-point of the 7-year tribulation that he will be cast out of heaven forever. Revelation 11:15; Revelation 12:7-9

8. The Jews' unbelief in Jesus as Messiah during His first coming fulfilled Bible prophecy (John 12:34-41).

Isaiah 53:1; Isaiah 6:10

9. Jesus spoke the words the Father gave Him to speak, thereby demonstrating His perfect, sinless obedience to the Father's will (John 12:42-50).

James 3:1-2-

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

Conclusions:

- Jealousy can lead to murder if someone refuses to repent and turn to God and the truth from His Word. We must respect what God respects.
 - "You cannot love God and hate that which God loves. If you hate that which God loves, you will end up loving that which God hates." -Amir Tsarfati, *The Last Hour*, 94
- God's plan of redemption is always moving forward. The Pharisees tried to stop God's plans from
 happening (see Luke's account of the triumphal entry, Luke 19:37-40), but man's attempt to rebuke
 God's work will always prove futile. We can rest in God's perfect plan and timing for everything.