

22. Arrival in Jerusalem

Introduction: In the previous story, Jesus spoke in front of his disciples about what would happen to him in the future, but his disciples did not understand. Along the road, Jesus also healed a blind beggar, and then continued on with his disciples to the city of Jerusalem. (Luke 18:31–34, 42–43; 19:1)

When they had nearly reached Jerusalem, Jesus told two of his disciples, “Go to that village ahead. When you get there, you will see a donkey tied up which has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you why you are taking the donkey, you should say, ‘The Lord needs to use it.’” (Luke 19:28–31)

The two disciples went ahead. They saw that things were just as Jesus had told them. The owner of the donkey saw them untying the rope of the donkey, and asked them, “Why are you releasing my donkey?” (Luke 19:28–31)

They answered, “The Lord needs to use it.” The owner of the donkey did not say anything more. (Luke 19:34)

They brought the donkey to Jesus, and put their own clothing on the donkey’s back, and then Jesus sat on it. Jesus rode on the donkey. Many people were there. Everyone put their outer coats on the road, to let Jesus’ donkey step on it. (Luke 19:35–36)

They came to a place called the Mount of Olives. At the foot of the hill there were many people following Jesus. There were those who had seen Jesus heal the blind beggar and the handicapped, and had seen him performed many other miracles. These people were crowding along the road, loudly praising God, and giving thanks to Him. As they were walking they were saying, “May God’s blessing be given to this Savior sent from God. May God and man be reconciled! All glory be to God!” (Luke 19:37–38)

However, among the crowd, there were some religious leaders who heard these sayings, and said to Jesus, “Teacher, ask those who are following you stop saying these things!” (Luke 19:39)

Jesus told these religious leaders, “If they did not praise God, then these very rocks will come up and praise God.” (Luke 19:40)

When Jesus, riding on the donkey, came to a place where he could see Jerusalem, he wept there, and then he said, “I really hope that today you can know what it is to have true peace. Now all of you are blind and do not yet understand these things.” (Luke 19:41–42)

After this, Jesus taught the people about God’s truth in the temple where God was worshipped every day. The religious leaders were discussing how to trap and kill Jesus, but they could not find a way to kill Jesus, because there were so many people who loved listening to Jesus. (Luke 19:47–48)