

Today is Palm Sunday, the day that we mark the beginning of Jesus's last week on this earthly plane. Jesus's journey to Jerusalem was a necessary event that spiritually prepared him for his eventual trial, crucifixion and resurrection.

The metaphysical understandings that we can learn from this story will help us prepare our consciousness for what appear to be the trials, crucifixions and resurrections that we often experience on our own spiritual journey to Mastery.

On his way to Jerusalem Jesus stopped at a village called *Bethphage* at the Mount of Olives. From there, he rode a *donkey* into the *walled city of Jerusalem*, where he was greeted by a *rejoicing multitude*.

When we examine the metaphysics within a Bible story, we are looking for the deeper spiritual meaning. The people and places in Bible stories reflect our own spiritual evolution on our journey toward the full expression of our Christ potential.

Here is a metaphysical interpretation of Jesus's journey into the city of Jerusalem:

- *Bethphage*: The city of Bethphage stands for the place in consciousness where we receive guidance. It was in Bethphage that Jesus's purpose became clear to him, and he received guidance. When we turn our challenges over to God and listen during prayer and meditation, we too receive the guidance we need.

Affirmation: *God, I am open to your guidance right now.*

- *Donkey*: Often when a city was conquered by an invading force, the new leader would enter the city on a tall majestic horse. The new leader would enter this way to demonstrate his authority and power. Jesus's entering on a donkey demonstrated that he was not interested in worldly power. He was showing that he was a new type of leader bringing humility, compassion, forgiveness and love.

Affirmation: *I act with humility, compassion, forgiveness and love.*

- *Walled City*: The walls of the city are our interior defense mechanism. When the ego part of us becomes afraid, the walls go up. When we feel threatened, hurt, depressed, or angry, we hide behind these walls and do not experience the peace, love, or life that lies within the inner city of our soul.

Denial: *I release these fears and false beliefs; they have no power over me.*

- *Jerusalem*: Jerusalem is the city of peace. It represents the spiritual center in consciousness. Jesus's journey to Jerusalem represents our journey inward, to that peaceful place, where we receive spiritual sustenance.

Affirmation: *I am centered in the wisdom of the Christ.*

- *Rejoicing Multitude*: The rejoicing multitude and the spreading of their garments and branches before Jesus symbolizes the joyful celebration that we experience when the error state of mind is overcome.

Affirmation: *I celebrate in the expression of the Christ.*

Our first step toward mastery is to turn to God in prayer and meditation. In this place we are guided by Spirit in the direction of our divine purpose. As we move toward our purpose, we are able to rise above limiting and erroneous beliefs. We can then move past the walls of fear and doubt created by our ego mind, and experience the peace and joy of spiritual strength, even in the face of challenges.

Affirmation: *I am centered in the peace of my Christ self.*