

# ***Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study***

## **The Bible is All About Christ**

**Week of March 25, 2018 A.D.**

Faith in Jesus as the Son of God is not “blind faith”. Faith in Jesus is validated and demanded by the accuracy with which the Bible predicts the events which have been verified by human history and which are still unfolding before our very eyes.

### **Read Matthew 21:1 – 3**

1. There are at least two options that explain how Jesus knew where his disciples could find the two animals: (a) Jesus made arrangements in advance with the owner of the two animals or (b) Jesus used His divine powers to foresee the location of the animals. In your opinion, which option is true? Please explain the reasons for your opinion.
2. When you consider the current mindset of the American culture, do you think that a majority of the people believe that God created the heavens and the earth in six literal, twenty-four hour days? If so, why? If not, why not?
3. In your opinion, do most American Christians believe that (a) everything written in the Bible is the Word of God containing neither error nor contradiction? and (b) unless figurative language is clearly indicated by the context in which it is written, a passage of Scripture should always be understood and applied literally by giving the words their clear and usual meaning? Please explain your reasoning.

### **Read Matthew 21:4 – 5 and Zechariah 9:9**

4. Do you believe that Jesus arranged the events of Palm Sunday to give the appearance that He is the King prophesied by Zechariah? Or, do you believe that Zechariah was inspired by God to foresee the events of Palm Sunday? Or, do you believe both to be true? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

### **Read Matthew 21:6 – 9 and Isaiah 9:6 – 7**

5. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “The statement made by the crowd in Matthew 21:9 was an expression of the hope of the crowd that Jesus was the long-awaited King of the Jews.”

### **Read Matthew 21:23 – 27**

6. Does belief in Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God necessitate and require an equal belief in the truth of the prophecies which are written about Jesus in the Bible? Please explain your answer.

### **Read John 5:36 – 40**

7. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “Jesus said that God testified about Jesus in the Scriptures. Jesus said that if you believe in the Scriptures, you must also believe in Him. Therefore, a person cannot truly believe in the Scriptures without believing in Jesus.”

### **Read Matthew 21:28 – 32**

8. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “In this parable, the first son represents the Gentiles (i.e. all of the people who are not Jewish); and, the other son represents the Jews.”
9. Is the teaching of Paul which is found in Romans 3:21-24 an accurate explanation of what Jesus was saying in Matthew 21:31-32? Please explain your answer.

### **Read Matthew 21:33 – 46**

10. Would the church have come into existence if the Jews had received Jesus as their King and Messiah? Please explain your answer.
11. Based on this parable, does saving faith in Jesus as your Savior pre-suppose and/or imply that such faith will “produce fruit for the kingdom of God”? (vs. 43-44)

### **Read Luke 12:42 – 48**

12. Does this parable apply to Christians? If not, to whom does it apply? If a person lives in a society in which Bibles are readily available for purchase, will every person in that society be held accountable before God to purchase, read, and apply the teachings of the Bible? Please explain the reasons for your answers. Please explain the meaning and application of this parable.

**Consider:** Jesus has entrusted to the church (all Christians individually and collectively) the stewardship of His message and His mission to make disciples of all nations. Each of us will someday stand before Christ and be called to give an account of our stewardship. What should be the top priority and purpose of our lives? “You think about that.” Amen.