

“What’s Your Plan for Jesus?”

Based on John 12:12-19 (NIV)

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Rev. Roger Madden, preaching

John 12:12 - The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem.

† **The Passover, a major Jewish festival, was happening in Jerusalem.**

† **Estimates are that over 2 million people were in Jerusalem for the Passover.**

John 12:17 - Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word.

† **Some people plan on Jesus being a miracle worker.**

John 12:18 - Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him.

† **Some people plan on Jesus being a celebrity.**

John 12:13 - They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!"

† **Some people plan on Jesus as their future earthly king.**

† **This procession is a lot like the triumphal entry of another conqueror, Simon Maccabeus, who rode into Jerusalem about 150 years earlier (in 142 B.C.) after his victory over the Syrians and the people waved palm branches in honor of his victory.**

John 12:19 - So the Pharisees said to one another, "See, this is getting us nowhere. Look how the whole world has gone after him!"

† **The Religious leaders plan on Jesus as their enemy.**

John 12:14-15

14 Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written:

15 "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt."

† **God plans on Jesus as the Prince of Peace.**

† **Riding in on a horse would be the sign of a warring liberator.**

† **The colt of a donkey was an honored animal in Jesus' day and it symbolizes that the person who rides it comes in peace.**

John 12:16 - At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.

† **God's plan = Through Jesus, the people are to be led into a deeper and better understanding of God's truth.**

† **When I look back at the events of my life, I can see what God has done to lead me.**

† **God has a plan for me if I let God lead.**

Applying Today's Message to My Life:

† What was my plan for my life when I was 10? 20?
Other ages?

† When I look back, how has God been active in my life?

† What is my plan for my life today?

† What is God's plan for my life?

† Whose plan am I following?