"THE ENTRANCE OF JESUS TO OUR LIVES"

Binhi sang Pagtuo

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The Holy Week is upon us once again. It is a good time to pause and reflect about our life.

The Palm Sunday or the Triumphal Entry of Jesus celebration yesterday coincided with April Fools Day. Was Jesus a fool when He entered Jerusalem knowing that it would lead to His death? On the contrary, Jesus entered it with the full knowledge that His entrance will cause an uproar that will lead to His arrest and execution. Nevertheless, Jesus did it for our own sake.

Will we let Jesus have a triumphal entry in our lives? The entrance of Jesus teaches us two things.

First, His entrance to our lives will lead to our cleansing. The entry of Jesus into Jerusalem led him to the temple in which he subsequently cleansed it by overturning the tables of the corrupt businessmen who were in connivance with the corrupt priests.

For sure, there will be an upheaval within us when we let Jesus enter. Maybe some of us will not like His entrance and like the Pharisees, Priests, and Sadducees of olden times will plot for His demise in our lives. Or some of us will get angry like the moneychangers whom Jesus called thieves and robbers because of our corrupt ways. But hopefully, most of us will allow Jesus to cleanse the temple of our lives of any unclean practices.

Second, His entrance to our lives will teach us how to live humble lives. Amidst the chaos of Roman occupation, and the constant clamor of people for salvation from foreign domination, Jesus rode a donkey (a symbol of peace and humility) and not a horse (a symbol of war and success).

In the midst of our horsepower-driven society, we sometimes forget to acknowledge God as the source of everything. When we make ourselves as the center or the starting point of our successes, we are committing the sin of pride. Let us be reminded that the center letter of the word sin and pride is “I”.

There is an illustration that tells about the story of the donkey that Jesus rode. The donkey was so fascinated by the event of the triumphal entry that he excitedly told his mother later that the people were praising him and extolling his humble virtues. His mother wanted to teach him a lesson about humility. So she asked him to ride the trail again all by himself. The donkey went home and learned his lesson: We are nothing without Christ.

Have a blessed Holy Week!

Sincerely,

Rev. Francis Neil G. Jalando-on