



**Gary Molander**  
**The Crowds - Week 3**

**Jesus Enters Jerusalem on a Donkey - Mark 11:1-11**

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." 4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" 11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

**Who Do the Crowds Say Jesus Is?**

Jesus is King.

Jesus is Our Warrior King.

**The Anatomy of the Crowd - Mark 15:6-15**

6 Now it was the custom at the festival to release a prisoner whom the people requested. 7 A man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder in the uprising. 8 **The crowd** came up and asked Pilate to do for them what he usually did. 9 "Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?" asked Pilate, 10 knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. 11 **But the chief priests stirred up the crowd** to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. 12 "What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked them.

13 "Crucify him!" they shouted.

14 "Why? What crime has he committed?" asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, "Crucify Him!"

15 Wanting to satisfy **the crowd**, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

How does a person go from "Hosanna!" to "Crucify Him" in less than a week?

1. Our crowds are consumed by outrage.
2. Our crowds dehumanize the other side.
3. Our crowds provide an echo chamber.

**Who Am I Becoming? Two Questions.**

1. Who are my teachers?
2. Who are my people?

**Legend:** King, Warrior King, outrage, dehumanize, echo chamber, teachers, people