

# GCFSM SUNDAY BULLETIN

JULY 28, 2024  
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## SERMON OUTLINE

## JESUS AS THE COMING KING

JOHN 12:12-50 | PASTOR REX VASALLO

<sup>12</sup> The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. <sup>13</sup> So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" <sup>14</sup> And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, - John 12:12-14

Our passage opens with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. He came on a colt, fulfilling the long-awaited prophecy of the Israelites: the coming of their king. This event highlights the people's seeming acceptance of Jesus as their Messiah as they cried out, "Hosanna" (v. 13)!

Entering Jerusalem, the people continued to follow Jesus because the signs gave way for

Jesus to reveal the kind of king that He is. Jesus is the suffering king who would die for His people. In multiple instances, Jesus mentioned that his hour (suffering and death) had not yet come, but now it had finally come (v. 23).

Jesus' conversation with the crowd revealed the purpose of His coming to suffer and die for His people. Jesus reveals that His death would be the ultimate sacrifice that would bear much fruit. (v. 24). Jesus also expressed that though his soul was troubled, he knew His sacrifice would bring honor to the Father (vv. 27-28). Jesus told the crowd that He had to die because only through His death would he draw all people to Himself (v. 32).

Jesus' sacrificial death

contradicts their perception of who the Messiah is (v. 34). In response, Jesus urged the Jews to walk in the light and to walk in him (v. 35-36). After these exchanges, the Apostle John clearly stated that though Jesus had revealed Himself as the Messiah, the Jews continued in their disbelief (v. 37) and sought only their desires (v. 42-43).

This narrative portrays Jesus as the coming King and reveals the reasons why Jesus needed to suffer in his first coming. In this sermon, we will discover why Jesus is the Suffering King who will return and rule with His people forever!

Jesus is our King. Jesus is our coming King! ✠

## THE WILL OF GOD FOR US

REV. DON GUICO

*"Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (ESV)

"I want to know God's perfect will for me" is, I believe, one of the deepest longings of each child of God who truly wants to honor and please his/her Father. But how do we know God's will for us?

Wouldn't it be great if each time we wake up to a new day when we have our devotional time with the Lord and His word, we would instantly receive God's complete and specific instructions for the day? How much simpler, much more fulfilling, and gratifying, and may I add, how much less stressful it would be if God would tell us what to do, where to go, whom to speak with, what to say, how to respond, etc. But unlike how He worked with selected people in the Old Testament and New, God doesn't work that way with us. Instead, He, through Paul's writing, tells us this - rejoice always, pray always, and give thanks always. ALWAYS! This is the will of God for us, whatever our circumstances.

Easier said than done, right? Especially when we go through literal and figurative storms, where thunder and lightning cast fear over our hearts, floods, and waves overwhelm and seem

to drown us, and the cold and darkness immobilize us, it is so hard to rejoice, so hard to pray, and so hard to give thanks. This only proves one thing - we cannot do this in our strength and capacity. This cannot be self-generated and does not come naturally to us. This can only be done through the power and strength of the Holy Spirit; it is supernaturally accomplished. Thus, we must always submit our will to Him, surrender our lives to Him, and yield to His leading. ALWAYS! Only then can we truly rejoice always, pray always, and give thanks always. Only with the Spirit can we do the will of God.

To do the will of God in and through the power of the Spirit, here are three things we must do:

- 1. Ask the Lord to help correct our perspective so that we can always rejoice.** Allow Him to change our hearts and minds so that we see every situation through spiritual eyes and see His grand plan of things. When we do this, our faith in God will grow.
- 2. Ask the Lord to help us captivate our passions so that we can always pray.** Let Him show us the distractions in our lives that have led us to pray less or be prayerless. Prayer is the Christian's priority because it is, first and foremost, a relationship! When we do this, our hope in God will grow.

**3. Ask the Lord to help cultivate our praise so that we can always give thanks.** Let Him show us that He is always good, whatever the situation and that good will certainly come out even in life's greatest storms. We do not only thank Him, serve Him, worship Him, and love Him when things are going our way. We thank Him, especially when things are not going our way. He now becomes the true center of our lives, not us, not the pursuit of personal happiness or comfort. We now become aligned with Him and more pleasing to Him. When we do this, our LOVE for God will grow.

God gave us these three short exhortations because doing the will of God is the key to pleasing Him. In 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, we see the role of trials and sufferings. As we are being sanctified through these, we should have faith in God alone, put our hope in God alone, and love God alone so that our whole spirit, soul, and body would be kept blameless on the day of His coming. This is why we are to rejoice always, pray always, and give thanks continuously. ALWAYS! This is the will of God for us that we may be kept blameless. Just as Jesus did the will of the Father. Just as Jesus is blameless. ✠

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