

# A Moment of Decision

Bob Harper

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A Moment of Destiny

Luke 19.28-44

We live in the space between our need for destiny and our desire for freedom.

God gave the universe great freedom but built destiny into it as well.

The Gospel is both destiny and freedom.

The Gospel is the destined plan of God to restore his authority over creation, redeem the universe and reconcile people to himself.

And God gives us great freedom in the Gospel.

Our moments of decision about the Gospel shape our destiny.

Palm Sunday is an intersection of freedom and destiny.

Luke 19:

Verse 28:

After Jesus said “this” he went on to Jerusalem.

“This” was the parable of the Talents (Luke 19.11-27).

Jesus is about to enact this parable in Jerusalem.

Verses 29-31:

The fulfillment of the parable is a moment of destiny prophesied long ago by more than one prophet (Zech. 9.9; Mal. 3.1).

The deliverer, the Messiah will come humbly and unexpected.

Jesus comes to the edge of Jerusalem and sends his disciples to set up the prearranged ceremony.

Verses 32-36:

The disciples bring Jesus a colt which he rides into the city.

This moment is the fulfillment of the prophecies.

This is a cultural moment. The leading citizens welcome Jesus in except these citizens are lowly like him.

This is a militant moment modeled on the Roman Triumph. Unlike the Roman ceremony the King in this one, Jesus, is the one to die. This is the beginning of Jesus's coronation which will be completed at the cross.

Verses 37-40:

Jesus's followers begin to sing Psalm 118.26. This is shocking. Some Pharisees notice and call for Jesus to make them stop. Using a rich metaphor Jesus says nothing can stop God's agenda.

Verses 41-44:

Jesus weeps over the city as he acknowledges its destiny. Jesus then enters the Temple presenting himself as Messiah. The religious leaders ignore him.

In a moment of destiny there are three choices:

Worship God.

Ignore the summons of the Gospel.

Criticize and condemn.

The choice is yours.

"It is in your moments of decision that your destiny is shaped."