

# THE DONKEY OF PALM SUNDAY

Mark 11:1-10

**Make no mistake...Palm Sunday is all about Jesus...NOT a donkey.**

**The background and meaning of Palm Sunday...** In many lands in the ancient [Near East](#), it was customary to cover in some way the path of someone thought worthy of the highest honour. The [Bible](#) (2 Kings 9:13) reports that [Jehu](#), son of [Jehoshaphat](#), was treated this way. In the [Roman culture](#) the [palm branch was a symbol](#) of triumph and victory. In [ancient Egyptian religion](#), the palm was carried in funeral processions and represented eternal life. The palm branch later was used as a symbol of [Christian martyrs](#) and their spiritual victory or triumph over death. In [Revelation 7:9](#), the white-clad multitude stand before the throne and [Lamb](#) holding palm branches.

The symbolism of the donkey may refer to the Eastern tradition that it is an animal of peace, versus the horse, which is the animal of war. A king would have ridden a horse when he was bent on war and ridden a donkey to symbolize his arrival in peace. Jesus' entry to Jerusalem would have thus symbolized his entry as the [Prince of Peace](#), not as a war-waging king.

This evening...I want to zero in on the donkey and her colt. I want you to imagine that YOU are...or someone you care about...is the colt.

1. The colt was **tied up** (v.2)...has God ever left you tied up? Waiting??

**I thank God** for keeping me tied up!!!

If He had loosed me sooner...I probably would have really messed things up! I, or someone connected to God's plan for me would have not been ready.

2. Nothing was hidden from Jesus...He **knew exactly** where the colt was (v.2).

He **knows exactly where I am**. He can find me anytime He wants.

3. When Jesus was ready...when the time had come...in the fullness of time Jesus sent for the colt. Jesus said, "The Lord has **need** of it (the colt)" (v.3).

Do you believe that God "**needs**" you (*not because He is lacking but because He has chosen to use you.*)

4. Jesus trusted that the colt would **not buck Him off**. God looks for someone **He can trust**.

Eze. 22:30... "I looked for someone among you who could build walls or stand in front of me by the gaps in the walls to defend the land and keep it from being destroyed. But couldn't find anyone."

5. Jesus trusted that the colt would not be **spooked** by the boistrous crowd. **To be used in a greater way...I must be matured enough by experience...to be able to handle it.**

6. Jesus trusted that the colt was ready for this mission. Jesus **counted on** it (v.7). Are you aware that **God is counting on you??**