

## Mark's Wild Gospel Week 8 –

### A Wild Entrance

1. Have you ever noticed how quickly the stance of the crowd in Jerusalem shifted against Jesus in only one week? What do you think contributed to this?
2. Read Mark 11:1-11. Why would Jesus attempt such a staged entrance into Jerusalem? What kind of response was he trying to illicit from the city?  
  
\*See also N.T Wright's quote from *The Victory of God*: "Within his own time and culture, his riding on a donkey over the Mount of Olives, across Kidron, and up to the temple mount spoke more powerfully than words could have done of a royal claim." – NT Wright
3. If you were in the crowd that day, as a 1<sup>st</sup> Century Jew, what hopes would Jesus' entrance have stirred up in you?
4. Read Mark 11:12-21. What are your first thoughts/feelings about this confrontational Jesus?
5. In reading the story of the Fig tree (a dramatic parable about the end of the temple) and the clearing of the temple, what do you think is Jesus' posture towards harmful and empty religion?
6. If Jesus were to walk into our church today, would he find tables that he needed to flip? i.e. the things that are harming or blocking our genuine worship of God.
7. If Jesus were to walk into your home today, and take a look at your life, would he find things he needed to alter to help you better worship and connect with Him?
8. Tim Keller reflected that after the events recorded in Mark 11, the crowd was left with a clear choice about Jesus- almost as if Jesus was saying: *Crown me or kill me, but I will not be liked*. If this same choice is given to us today, would you consider yourself one who calls Jesus Lord, someone who is hostile towards him, or someone who merely "likes" Jesus? What are the implications of each choice?