

# 30 DAYS IN THE BIBLE

Click [here](#) to read Matthew 21

Key Verse – Matthew 21:4–5

One thing that we need to understand about the Jewish people, who were the original and intended readers of this book, is that they knew their Bible. And I mean, really knew it. Memorizing the Law and the prophets was maybe the most central and imperative practice in their faith other than meeting the requirements of said Law. So when Matthew tells them of Jesus' interesting, and kingly, mode of entry into Jerusalem, and harkens them back to this prophecy by Zechariah, they would have mentally finished the prophecy themselves. This quoting of Zechariah would have attached, in the minds of the Jews, the full prophecy found in Zechariah 9 to Jesus and what He was in Jerusalem to accomplish. So before we go any further today, let's go back and read Zechariah 9:9–17.

There's a lot in there, isn't there? When we read a prophecy like that, it's easy to see why so many Jews believed the Messiah was going to be a political leader who threw off their oppressors. It likely would have been confusing for the Jews as they came to grips with the reality that their precious Messiah was a lowly carpenter turned preacher who was executed by the Romans. What about all the foretold victory? What Matthew may have been doing here, other than tying Jesus to another Messianic prophecy and confirming that as Jesus' identity, is point out to the Jewish believers that all the promises that go with those Messianic prophecies they hold so dear will still occur, just maybe not in the way they thought. He is reminding them that the humble King brings peace, in a covenant sealed with blood. He is reminding them that He will free the prisoners, and trade them blessings instead of their trouble. He is reminding them that God promises protection from their enemies, that He will be a shepherd to his people. Matthew is calling out all the beautiful promises of God, and saying that just because the process looked different than what was imagined does not make the outworking of those promises any less beautiful.



Do we find ourselves in a similar situation? Are we confused as the reality of our lives doesn't quite seem to match all the wonderful things God has promised us? How is that affecting our faith? Even though the journey we are on can feel so different than what we imagined, we can find assurance that our humble King is still the King, and He does not lie. He will bring about all He promised, worked out in His way and His timing.

**What Scripture can I meditate on today?**

**What did God speak to me today?**

**How can I respond in obedience?**

**How can I pray?**