

We wish to See Jesus

This coming Sunday is Palm Sunday. The gospel reading is John 12:12-43. There are several sub-texts in these verses.

The first of these sub-themes is the Triumphal Entry. Here we find a large crowd, many of who had been present at the raising of Lazarus. They were pretty excited about this miracle and now accompanied Jesus into Jerusalem.

In the days to come when Jesus began to speak of his impending death, many in the crowd along with the spiritual leaders would be confused by what he was saying. Ultimately, many would join a hostile crowd, demanding that Jesus be crucified.

As all of this is going on we read that some Greeks had come to Jerusalem for the Passover. Greeks here means Gentiles. ." They were among the God-fearing Gentiles who worshipped in Jerusalem at the time of the Passover.

They approached Philip because his name was Greek. Maybe they came to him because they felt comfortable with someone of their background. Philip and Andrew brought them to Jesus.

Jesus did not spend His time exchanging amenities with these visitors. Jesus is now fully focused on His challenges in Jerusalem. For that moment, the request was symbolic. They represented the Gentile nations and the fulfillment of the messianic promise of a light for the nations (Isaiah 60:3).

In this spirit we need to keep searching the Scriptures to learn of Him. His answer to these Greeks is still as important today as it was on that day. And, who knows who may come to ask us to see Jesus as well.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank you for the story of your passion on our behalf. Help me to never miss the message of salvation as it comes once again in the coming week. Help us never take it and its cost for granted. Keep us in your Word so that we can be ready to share the hope of salvation others.