Daily Devotional, April 5, 2020

"Behold, Your King Is Coming To You" (Zechariah 9:9)

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion shall be from sea to sea, And from the River to the ends of the earth." (Zechariah 9:9-10, NKJV).

The ninth verse was fulfilled at the Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem on the day we call Palm Sunday, five days before the crucifixion of our Lord. This verse is referenced in both Matthew 21:5 and John 12:15. The multitudes rejoiced at the arrival of Jesus of Nazareth into Jerusalem, hoping that their long awaited Messiah would break off the bonds of Rome and institute His earthly Kingdom, which had been foretold in Isaiah 2:1-4. They did not understand that God the Son would be coming twice, that verses nine and ten were separated by a great many years. The first time He came in humility, offering up Himself for all, so that all who believe in Him and trust in His work in faith shall receive everlasting life. The second time, Jesus shall come on "a white horse" (Revelation 19:11), make short work of His enemies, and establish His peaceful thousand year reign on earth (Cf. Revelation 20:4-6).

Having set our text in proper context, let us now consider some personal devotional applications of these 7 words: "Behold, your King is coming to you." First, He is "your King" and He is "coming to you." Granted, in the context, these pronouns are directed to Israel. But what is directed to the nation can be applied to each of us today. Jesus takes the initiative to personally come to us! What condescension of our Lord that He comes to us. And yet He does! "For whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). Jesus Himself says, "I will come to you" (John 14:18). If we will continually call, then He shall continually come. Second, let us "Behold" this event. That word "Behold" is there to call our special attention to what immediately follows. The Old Testament prophet Zechariah looked forward to this event, the people in Jesus' day witnessed this event, and we look back upon it. We recall that Jesus' first coming preceded His salvation work at Calvary and victory over death, and we who believe rejoice in the finished work. We also look forward to His return, His Second Coming, His Kingdom, and our final glorification. This world is a sin-laden place filled with war, but our God shall one day reign universally in peace.