

# **ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL KAMPALA**

## **PALM SUNDAY**

**March 25 2018**

**Bible text: Luke 19 : 28-44**

Prayer: May the words and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your sight .O lord my rock and redeemer.(Psalm 19:14)

Welcome

How can I help the work of the church and in turn help my fellow brethren in Christ do what needs to be done?

What is my place in the church?

Appreciation: **ACP** team for the good and commendable job

We shall need to support the project in every possible way if we are to see the roof on top by august this year.

Work goes faster when everyone works together

This work would go faster and be done better if we all step up and do the things that led by his spirit has equipped us to do.

**QUESTION: Am I the grease in the axles or the glue in the gears?**

Luke 19:28-44

Introduction

The texts that we read on Palm Sunday have become so familiar that we don't probably don't sense the true meaning and revolutionary power of Palm Sunday.

Because we have become so familiar with Palm Sunday messages, we don't even pay attention.

Palm Sunday is a challenge to decision we should not be spectators but rather ready to follow the peaceful king who conquers not by force but by love and patience.

Theme "my house shall be house of prayer Luke 19: 41-44

This was one of the most remarkable moments in Jesus life –riding into the city on a donkey (symbol of kingship)

Crowds gathered all around him worshipping and throwing their coats as well as palm leaves on the ground for Jesus to ride on them.

Jesus was ushered toward the city hero's welcome yet he broke down.

Luke 19:41" as he approached Jerusalem and the city, he wept over it 42 and said if you only you known on this day what would bring you peace but now it is hidden from your eyes.

Why did Jesus weep so passionately at the sight of Jerusalem?

Have you ever stopped to wonder what could possibly bring tears to the eyes of God?

Can you imagine the face of Jesus moist with his own tears?

Are they the tears of weakness or of strength?

Are they tears of fear or of compassion?

The bible records three different times when Jesus cried, each time in a different place and for different reason?

Every tear Jesus wiped from his cheek is meaningful and important

.many people believe that Palm Sunday is about the pomp and circumstance and the celebration of the hour.

After all, people were shouting their hosannas and waving their palm branches. But it is not.

Palm Sunday is about tears; it is about weeping and crying we have raised a generation in our country who seem to have lost their tears.

Even some of our cultures have taught us that it is inappropriate to cry.

We tell our sons" be a man, don't cry "or "big girls don't cry"

One of the major problems facing our culture is that we have lost our tears

- the remorse less increase in crime

- The corruption

The murder of innocent women in cold blood

Every tear Jesus wiped from his cheeks is meaningful and important

The first time that Jesus wept was in john 11:35 Jesus wept when he asked where Lazarus' body was buried

The third time that Jesus wept was in the garden of gethsemane the night before his crucifixion and I mentioned in Hebrew 5:7 during the days of Jesus life on earth he offered up prayers and

petitions with loud cries and tears to the one who could save him from death and he was heard because of his reverent submission.

The second time that Jesus cried was on the occasion of his triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem.

Luke 19:41” as he approached Jerusalem and the city, he wept over it 42 and said if you only you known on this day what would bring you peace but now it is hidden from your eyes.

The Jews (Hebrew people) were expecting a great political leader to free them from the colonial masters the romans and lead them to be masters over others.

In that they would then have material possessions –big houses, plenty of food and drinks, good roads, have big chunks of land etc. and live the comfortable life.

Their praises were tampered with the attitude of what can you do for me?

We also have the same attitude we want a Jesus who can fix things for us.

That is why the prosperity gospel is on the increase each and every other day

Some people even fail to work and pray day and night 24/7

Those who do not work should not eat

Luke 19:42” if you only you known on this day what would bring you peace

It is not the material possessions.

It is not the big houses.

Not the plenty of food and drinks not the big chunks of people are grabbing left and right.

None of these will inherit the kingdom of God.

In the remaining minutes, I want us to look at some reasons why Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem and why you too, are wept over:

#### **i) JESUS WEPT BECAUSE HE KNEW WHY THOSE SINNERS WOULD PERISH.**

a) It was not merely ignorance but willful ignorance.

He said in Luke 19: 42 “If you had only known.....”

The people of Jerusalem knew so much but did not know Jesus.

And they did not know that they did not know “He who knows not that he knows not is a fool show him”

Jesus Christ knew that they would refuse to know because he knew what is in man that is why he wept.

b) Sinners become complacent and think they are okay. Those did not know they were lost. They did not know they were dead in their trespasses (sin). Romans 5: 8 "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (NIV)

They did not know that they were helpless.

They did not know they were headed for eternal destruction in hell.

They did not know that their only salvation was Jesus Christ.

C) Because they did not know, because they would not know and because they refused to know, Jesus wept for them.

-will you perish as they perished?

-will you refuse to Jesus Christ as they refused to know him?

## **ii) HE WEPT AT THE THE THOUGHT OF WHAT THOSE SINNERS HAD LOST**

a) He said in Luke 19: 42 "..... If you even you had only known on this day what would bring you peace". The word Jerusalem means "foundation of peace".

So the true "foundation of peace" (prince of peace) is riding into the city named the "foundation of peace", knowing that they will reject him.

b) The city which had known so little peace which had been destroyed by her enemies and which would be destroyed again by the romans was about to throw away her only hope of peace.

In 70 AD, the romans turned on the Jews and invaded Jerusalem.

c) So Jesus the Prince of Peace wept for what they might have had wept for what they would never know but what they might have had.

Had they only embraced instead of rejecting this one now entering the city?

He knew that in a week's time, they would crucify him and he wept.

Not for himself but for the sinners who refused him.

d) Will you forfeit your chance of peace by rejecting the savior?

Will you refuse the prince of peace?

It is a great sin to reject the Lord Jesus.

For how long will you continue to commit this terrible sin?

## **iii) IN ADDITION TO WEEPING FOR WHAT WAS LOST ,HE WEPT FOR WHO WAS LOST**

a) As his tear filled eyes swept over the city The Lord Jesus Christ saw the city for what it was.

-A city with people individuals ; men and women, boys and girls, rich and poor, learned and unlearned, big and small, insane and normal among others.

- In verse 44, he refers to the city using the word you (thee) "you and the children within your walls"

b) Jesus Christ preached to, fed and ministered to multitudes.

- But he never lost of the fact that multitudes were made of individual people with individual needs who need an individual savior.

He saw them as individuals and loved them individually.

And his heart was broken over their individual condemnation.

c) In the same way Jesus looks down from heaven on you as an individual. You are not numbers to him.

As he looked upon them with heart's desire, so he looks at you with a heart's desire.

Will you be wept for because you refuse to come to Jesus?

Don't accept to be wept for because you refuse to come to Jesus?

#### **iv) HE WEPT OVER THEIR NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITY**

a) In Gen 6:3 God said "My spirit shall not always strive with man.  
(Mukama nayogera nti Omwoyo gwange teguwakanenga na muntu emirembe n'emirembe)

They had been warned by Enoch and Noah

Then the opportunity to respond to Noah's preaching passed and the flood swept over them and they all died in their sins except for Noah and his family.

Neglected opportunity resulted into the destruction of millions.

How many times have you had the gospel and neglected the opportunity to receive it.

Exodus 20:5-6 "You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."(NIV)

b) In Revelation 2:21, we read the words of Jesus about a woman in Thyatira "I have given her time to repent of her immorality, but she is unwilling"

Though God deals with the many, He always deals with the many by dealing with the individual.

And God would deal with you and me.

c) As Jesus over the city of Jerusalem, He knew that their opportunity to be saved would be neglected as so many neglected before and as so many would neglect afterwards the opportunity to be saved from their sins.

What will you do with your opportunity to be saved from your sins?

Tears are being shed over your sins.

Will you come to Jesus for so our tears can be turned to rejoicing?

Hebrews 3:7-8 "7Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today if you hear His voice, 8do not harden your hearts, as you did in the rebellion, ....."

## **v)JESUS WEPT OVER THEIR BLINDNESS**

a) Luke 19:42 ends with these words “.....but now it is hidden from your eyes”

They had refused to see and because they had refused to see, God had blinded them.

And that's what had happened before.

Remember Pharaoh, he hardened his heart and when he had hardened his heart, then God hardened his heart.

b) God will always have the last say in the matter.

If you refuse to see and then persist in refusing to see, God will blind you so that you cannot see.

If you refuse to hear and then persist in refusing to hear, God will deaf to the truth.

If you harden your heart and then persist in hardening your heart, God will harden your heart to the truth.

If you don't want to retain God in your knowledge and you consider to suppress the truth of God and refuse to obey, the word of God tells us that such a person will be given over to a depraved mind.

Roman 1:28 “Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done.”

## **VI)JESUS WEPT BECAUSE OF THEIR DESTINY**

This is a tragedy you cannot imagine – Man created in the image of God and after God's likeness for communion with God is then separated from God by his sin

I want us to think about this:

- To them had been committed the oracles of God.

- To them had been made the covenants of promise.

- Through them had God sent his beloved son.

Yet because they rejected his son they were also rejecting their God.

- And because they rejected God's son they would have no other means of being reconciled to God and having their sins forgiven.

- The result could only be hell and that's why Jesus wept.

God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

Jesus wept for the people in Jerusalem so0 he would weep for you and me.

WHY? Because we refuse him ,because we reject him ,because we will not come to him.

## **CONCLUSION**

Palm Sunday is a challenge to decision. We should not be spectators but rather be ready to follow the peaceful king who conquers not by force but by love and patience.

As Jesus rode on the top of the Mount of Olives, and he looked out over the city he knew that the majority of those would reject him just as most of those in Kampala city would reject him.

They had opportunities and you have the opportunities .But they preferred their sin.

Will you prefer him? Will you refuse to come to Christ? Will you miss your opportunity to be saved? Will you say as Felix once said to the Apostle Paul "I have a convenient season"

(Acts 23:23-24:47)