

## The Triumphal Entry and Challenges

CHARACTERS: Jesus, Peter, John, Scribe, Pharisee, Dove seller, Money changer

SETTING: Israel, time of Christ

RUN TIME: 4 minutes

SCRIPTURE/BASED ON: Mark 11

JESUS: We are nearly to Jerusalem. Go into the village ahead of you. As soon as you enter it, you will find a young donkey tied there, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it here.

JOHN: What if someone asks us 'Why are you doing this?'?

JESUS: Say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here right away.'

JOHN: Ok.

MAN: Why are you untying my donkey?

JOHN: The Lord needs it and will send it back here right away.

MAN: Go ahead.

PHARISEE: They brought the donkey to Jesus and threw their robes on it, and He sat on it.

JOHN: Many people spread their robes on the road, and others spread leafy branches cut from the fields

ALL: Hosanna! He who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed One!

JOHN: The coming kingdom of our father David is blessed!

ALL: Hosanna in the highest heaven!

PHARISEE: Jesus went into the temple complex in Jerusalem and looked around at everything.

JOHN: Since it was already late, we went out to Bethany.

PHARISEE: The next day when we came out from Bethany, Jesus was hungry.

JOHN: After seeing in the distance a fig tree with leaves, He went to find out if there was anything on it.

PHARISEE: When He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs.

JESUS: May no one ever eat fruit from you again!

PHARISEE: Then we went into the temple complex and Jesus began to throw out those buying and selling in the temple.

MONEY CHANGER: Hey! Who do you think you are, overturning our tables?

DOVE SELLER: Or our chairs?

JESUS: You are not allowed to carry goods through the temple complex.

DOVE CHANGER: Why?

JESUS: Is it not written, My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?

DOVE: Yes.

JESUS: But you have made it a den of thieves!

PHH: *(aside to each other)* We must find a way to destroy Him.

SCRIBE: I know. I'm afraid of Him, because the whole crowd is astonished by His teaching.

JESUS: It is; let us go out of the city.

JOHN: Early in the morning, as they were passing by, we saw the fig tree withered from the roots up.

PHARISEE: Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed is withered.

JESUS: Have faith in God. I assure you: If anyone says to this mountain,

ALL: Be lifted up and thrown into the sea,

JESUS: and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him. Therefore I tell you, all the things you pray and ask for—

ALL: believe that you have received them, and you will have them.

JESUS: And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him,

ALL: so that your Father in heaven will also forgive you your wrongdoing.

JESUS: But if you don't forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your wrongdoing.

PHARISEE: When we got to the temple complex, the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders asked

PHH: *(snotty)* By what authority are you doing these things?

SCRIBE: Who gave you this authority to do these things?

JESUS: I will ask you one question; then answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. Was John's baptism from heaven or from men? Answer Me.

SCRIBE: *(arguing among themselves)* If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Then why didn't you believe him?'

PHH: But if we can't say, 'From men'—

SCRIBE: I know. I'm afraid of the crowd, because everyone thought that John was a genuine prophet.

PHH: *(to Jesus)* We don't know.

JESUS: Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.