



Welcome

....to Celebration Church!

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving
and His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His Name.
For the LORD is good; His mercy is everlasting
and His truth endures to all generations. Psalm 100:4-5.

April 2017

Sunday congregational services, all at 11am:

2 nd :	(communion)	Andy King;
9 th :		John Lavric;
16 th :	(Resurrection Day)	Andy King;
23 rd :		Matt Cottingham;
30 th :		Andy King

**Ashgrove
Nursing
Home
service:**
Tuesday
18th at
2.30pm

Bible study home groups:

Every Wednesday 7.30pm at
Glen & Debbie's

Every Thursday 10.30am at
Margaret's

Friday 7th & 28th at Andy &
Karen's

Prayer meetings:

Sundays 7pm: All at Ann's

Prayer for Israel meetings:

Thursday 13th & 27th, 7.15pm
at Ruth & Tony's

Mens Prayer Breakfast:

7am, 1st at Andy's
7am, 15th at Steve's

New coffee morning and dancing:

Wednesday 5th & 19th, 10:30 – 12:00 midday, St John Fisher hall.

Why would a king ride a donkey instead of a warhorse?

(Zech.9:9-10) *The first of two articles from Got Questions Ministries on gotquestions.org.*

Many have wondered why the king mentioned in Zechariah 9:9-10 would ride a donkey into Jerusalem rather than a warhorse. It seems an odd choice for royalty. Kings ride chargers, don't they?

In the ancient Middle Eastern world, leaders rode horses if they rode to war, but donkeys if they came in peace. 1Kings 1:33 mentions Solomon riding a donkey on the day he was recognized as the new king of Israel. Other instances of leaders riding donkeys are Judges 5:10; 10:4; 12:14; and 2 Samuel 16:2.

The mention of a donkey in Zechariah 9:9-10 fits the description of a king who would be "righteous and having salvation, gentle." Rather than riding to conquer, this king would enter in peace. Zechariah 9:10 highlights this peace: "I will take away the chariots from Ephraim and the war-horses from Jerusalem, and the battle bow will be broken. He will proclaim peace to the nations. His rule will extend from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth."

Note the many details symbolic of peace:

- "Take away the chariots": an end to the main vehicle of war.
- "Take away . . . the war-horses": no need for horses used in war.
- "The battle bow will be broken": no need for bows or arrows for fighting.
- "He will proclaim peace to the nations": His message will be reconciliation.
- "His rule shall be from sea to sea": the King will control extended territory with no enemies of concern.

Jesus fulfils this prophecy of Zechariah. The worldwide peace proclaimed by this humble King will be a fulfilment of the angels' song in Luke 2:14: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (NKJV). Significantly, Jacob's blessing on his son Judah includes a reference to a donkey and a donkey's foal (Genesis 49:11). Jesus is from the tribe of Judah.

Zechariah 9:9 was fulfilled by the triumphal entry as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19). Verses 10 and following refer to a future time when the Messiah will reign after defeating His enemies at the second coming.

Footnote: *In December 1917, after the British captured Jerusalem from the Ottoman Turks (an event that triggered the process that led to the establishing of the modern State of Israel), the British General Edmund Allenby entered Jerusalem through the Jaffa gate. He*



deliberately did not ride his horse as he made his 'triumphant entry' in to the city. Instead he humbly walked into the city, and was reportedly quoted afterwards saying how could he ride into Jerusalem on his horse when His Saviour, the King of the Jews, rode in on a donkey? AJK

What is the Passover Lamb? How is Jesus our Passover Lamb?

The Passover lamb was the animal God directed the Israelites to use as a sacrifice in Egypt on the night God struck down the firstborn sons of every household (Exodus 12:29). This was the final plague God issued against Pharaoh, and it led to Pharaoh releasing the Israelites from slavery (Exodus 11:1). After that fateful night, God instructed the Israelites to observe the Passover Feast as a lasting memorial (Exodus 12:14).

God instructed every household of the Israelite people to select a year-old male lamb without defect (Exodus 12:5; cf. Leviticus 22:20-21). The head of the household was to slaughter the lamb at twilight, taking care that none of its bones were broken, and apply some of its blood to the tops and sides of the doorframe of the house. The lamb was to be roasted and eaten (Exodus 12:7-8). God also gave specific instructions as to how the Israelites were to eat the lamb, "with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand" (Exodus 12:11; cf. Ephesians 6:14). In other words, they had to be ready to travel.

God said that when He saw the lamb's blood on the doorframe of a house, He would "pass over" that home and not permit "the destroyer" (Exodus 12:23) to enter. Any home without the blood of the lamb would have their firstborn son struck down that night (Exodus 12: 12-13).

The New Testament establishes a relationship between this prototypical Passover lamb and the consummate Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 5:7). The prophet John the Baptist recognized Jesus as "the Lamb of God" (John 1:29), and the apostle Peter links the lamb without defect (Exodus 12:5) with Christ, whom he calls a "lamb without blemish or defect" (1 Peter 1:19). Jesus is qualified to be called One "without blemish" because His life was completely free from sin (Hebrews 4:15). In Revelation, John the apostle sees Jesus as "a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain" (Revelation 5:6). Jesus was crucified during the time that the Passover was observed (Mark 14:12).

The Bible says believers have symbolically applied the sacrificial blood of Christ to their hearts and thus have escaped eternal death (Hebrews 9:12, 14). Just as the Passover lamb's applied blood caused the "destroyer" to pass over each household, Christ's applied blood causes God's judgment to pass over sinners and gives life to believers (Romans 6:23).

As the first Passover marked the Hebrews' release from Egyptian slavery, so the death of Christ marks our release from the slavery of sin (Romans 8:2). As the first Passover was to be held in remembrance as an annual feast, so Christians are to memorialise the Lord's death in communion until He returns (1 Corinthians 11:26).

The Old Testament Passover lamb, although a reality in that time, was a mere foreshadowing of the better and final Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ. Through His sinless life and sacrificial death, Jesus became the only One capable of giving people a way to escape death and a sure hope of eternal life (1 Peter 1:20-21).

Church magazine John is looking to produce a new church magazine every quarter or so. So if you have any items that may be suitable (jokes, Bible quiz questions, testimonies etc), please let him have them.

Craft afternoons Amy has started hosting an afternoon for ladies who enjoy being creative making cards and other items and having fellowship together. If you'd like to be involved speak to Amy.

Coffee mornings (with optional dancing!) These have started every other Wednesday morning for all, ladies and gentlemen, to come and enjoy fellowship around coffee (or tea) and biscuits. For those interested, there will also be the opportunity to learn some of the dance steps for when we 'praise the Lord with dancing' in our services!

News on the building The St John Fisher building is now on the market. Please continue to pray regarding what the Lord has for us in all this, as we continue to seek Him regarding our plans. We believe the Lord has planted us as a fellowship in Scartho and that should continue to be the case.

Scartho Celebration Church, meeting at St John Fisher Church Hall,
Waltham Road, Scartho, Grimsby, NE Lincs, DN33 2NA.

Contact: Pastor Andy King 07866 265155; almondtree@ntlworld.com

Website: Scarthocelebrationchurch.org



Scartho Celebration Church

For as the earth brings forth its bud, as the garden causes the things that are sown out to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring forth before all the nations. Isaiah 61:11