

1. As Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, the crowd welcomed Jesus by spreading their cloaks and leafy branches they had cut from the fields on the road, and shouted:

Mark 11:9-10 (ESV)

⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

2. The Old Testament prophet Zechariah wrote about a time when someone would ride into Jerusalem (also called Zion) on a colt.

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!
Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and having salvation,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation is he,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

When Jesus arrived in that way, the crowd may perceive Jesus as their king.

Mark 12:1-13:37

3. In Mark 11:18, the chief priests and scribes sought a way to destroy Jesus, fearing him as all the crowd was astonished by his teaching. This comes in after hearing about Jesus cleansing the temple from money changers and sellers (Mark 11:15-17).

In Mark 12:12, the religious leaders sought to arrest Jesus out of perceiving that Jesus told the parable of the tenants (Mark 12:1-11) against them.

4. The religious leaders challenged Jesus' authority (Mark 11:27-33) in his ministry and tried to trap Jesus in his talk pertaining to paying taxes to Caesar (Mark 12:13-17), all of which are the result of their fear of Jesus.
5. The Sadducees were a group of religious leaders who did not believe in resurrection. In Mark 12:18-23 they tried to make Jesus foolish with their question about the resurrection. In Mark 12:18-24, Jesus says that the real reason for their disbelief was due to them not knowing the Scriptures and the power of God.

6. In Mark 12: 38-40, Jesus makes a criticism towards religious leaders, particularly those who like to be seen as more dignified than others while practicing unwholy behavior.

Mark 12: 38-40 (ESV) - Beware of the Scribes

³⁸And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the market places ³⁹ and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, ⁴⁰ who devour widows' houses and for a pretense making long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.

7. A few days later the mood of the crowd had turned. Led by their religious leaders they demanded the death of Jesus (Mark 15: 9-13).

Q: Does it surprise you that it is possible to be respected, even religious, and still reject Jesus? Why or why not?

CHAPTER XI

- (55) The Triumphal Entry (Mark 11: 1-11)
- (56) Jesus Curses the Fig Tree (Mark 11: 12-14)
- (57) Jesus Cleanses the Temple (Mark 11: 15-19)
- (58) The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree (Mark 11: 20-25)
- (59) The Authority of Jesus Challenged (Mark 11: 26-33)

CHAPTER XII

- (60) The Parable of the Tenants (Mark 12: 1-12)
- (61) Paying Taxes to Caesar (Mark 12: 13-17)
- (62) The Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection (Mark 12: 18-27)
- (63) The Great Commandment (Mark 12: 28-34)
- (64) Whose Son Is the Christ? (Mark 12: 35-37)
- (65) Beware of the Scribes (Mark 12: 38-40)
- (66) The Widow's Offering (Mark 12: 41-44)

CHAPTER XIII

- (67) Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple (Mark 13: 1-2)
- (68) Signs of the End of the Age (Mark 13: 3-13)
- (69) The Abomination & Desolation (Mark 13: 14-23)
- (70) The Coming of the Son of Man (Mark 13: 24-27)
- (71) The Lesson of the Fig Tree (Mark 13: 28-31)
- (72) No One Knows That Day or Hour (Mark 13: 32-37)