

+ + + WHO IS THE MAN? + + +

While all four Evangelist offer an account of Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem on the first PAM SUNDAY, St. Matthew provides a thought-provoking verse in the Gospel: "And when He had come into Jerusalem, "all the city was moved saying: WHO IS THIS MAN?" (Matthew 21:10). Indeed, this question sets the tone for Holy Week, for everything we re-live in the coming days will hinge on Who people perceived Christ to be.

Some thought that He was a great Teacher; others a mighty Warrior, Who would lead them to victory over the Romans and establish again the ancient kingdom of Israel. The religious leaders viewed Him as a dangerous Revolutionary, Who would bring the wrath of Rome down upon them if He were not stopped. Although the masses greeted Christ with palms and cheered His coming to the Holy City, we can rightly conclude that they did not really know WHO He was.

For us to fully benefit from the sacred days ahead, we must be able to properly answer that question: WHO IS THIS MAN? Jesus Christ is much more than a Teacher, Healer, Prophet, or Social Activist. He is our God. He is our SAVIOUR. He is our REDEEMER. He is our Heavenly KING.

If we truly know Who Christ is, we can never be lukewarm in our feeling for Him. Christ said it Himself: "He who is not with Me is against Me." (Matthew 12:30) Yes, if we love and serve Him with our entire being, then when the sadness of Holy week is transformed into the joy of the Resurrection will be able to abundantly share in Christ's triumph over death.