

# Tears

Week #5: What Makes God Weep  
(Luke 19:28-44)

God **rejoices** when people connect the dots.

- Zechariah 9:9,10 - *Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.*
- Luke 19:37-38— *37 When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: 38 “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”*

God **weeps** when people miss the boat.

- Luke 19:39-40— *39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”*
- Luke 19:41-44— *41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 42 and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes. 43 The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. 44 They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God’s coming to you.”*
- Matthew 23:13-37 - *13 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You shut the door of the kingdom of heaven in people’s faces...you have neglected the more important matters of the law—justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former. 24 You blind guides!...27 “Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of the bones of the dead and everything unclean. 28 In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness. 37 “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing.*

God **hates (or despises)** when people pretend to be religious.

So what will God **see** this Holy Week?

- Matthew 15:8 - *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.*

- Psalm 51:17 - *My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.*

### **Points to Ponder**

- 1) Hosanna was the battle cry of the Jews for centuries before Jesus' arrival. But for all the wrong reasons...they wanted earthly freedom. What lesson can we take from them missing the boat...in other words what kind of Savior are you looking for?
- 2) What does God see when he looks inside of your heart...are you a whitewashed tomb (empty) or washed white in the blood of the lamb (humble and contrite)? What wake-up call do we find in Psalm 51? What is it that God longs to see in us (and perhaps what needs to change for us)?
- 3) Re-read John 1:29. How might that one verse both help us fight off hypocrisy and celebrate this Holy Week and every day that follows after Easter 2016?

***Homework: John 20:1-22***