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The Place Where Life Begins

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Palm Sunday is more than a date on the calendar; it is a divine moment that invites us to reflect deeply on who Jesus is and what it means to truly receive Him as King.

The crowds gathered with great enthusiasm, waving palm branches and shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" It was a celebratory moment of expectation and hope. But that moment was misunderstood and underestimated by the people. It was praise without discernment.

They expected political power, but He came with spiritual authority. They anticipated immediate deliverance, but He brought eternal salvation. They looked for a throne, but He was moving toward a cross. This is the tension that gives Palm Sunday its power and significance.

It reminds us that it is possible to praise Jesus and still misunderstand Him. It causes us to examine our motives - are we following Christ for who He is, or for what we hope He will do? It invites us to move beyond surface-level praise into a posture of surrendered discipleship. It reminds us that Jesus did not come to do what we think He ought to do but what we need Him to do most – save us from our sins.

I want to encourage you to enter this Holy Week with intentionality. Take time to reflect on what Christ on the cross means. Check and consecrate your heart before the Lord. Examine your expectations and align them with His will. Then, prepare yourself not just to celebrate resurrection, but to understand the sacrifice that made it possible.

Before God changes our environment, He addresses our condition. Palm Sunday is an invitation to let Him do just that. Let us not just wave palms this week but let us yield our hearts.

I look forward to worshiping with you as we move from crucifixion to celebration.

Faithfully in His service and with pastoral love,

Bishop W. James Thomas, II, D.Min., Senior Pastor

