v28 After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. v29 As he approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, v30 "Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. v31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it.' " v32 Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as he had told them. v33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" v34 They replied, "The Lord needs it." v35 They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. v36 As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. v37 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: v38 "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" v39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" v40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:28-40

v1 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, v2 it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. The glory of Lebanon will be given to it, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendour of our God. v3 Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; v4 say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." v5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. v6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. v7 The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs. In the haunts where jackals once lay, grass and reeds and papyrus will grow. v8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it. v9 No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there. But only the redeemed will walk there, v10 and the ransomed of the LORD will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. Isaiah 35:1-10

Israel were being punished for the repeated rebellion against God, however, Isaiah prophesied that a time would come when God would restore the fortunes of Israel. Israel did return from captivity, yet rebelled against God again, and were again being subjected to foreign rule. They were waiting for the deliverance that Messiah would bring. When Jesus came on the scene, they thought he would be a political liberator. When he came into Jerusalem riding on a donkey, they were confused, yet welcomed him in the same way they would a conquering hero.

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

1. JOY and GLADNESS will "SET THE STAGE."

v1 The desert and the parched land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom. Like the crocus, v2 it will burst into bloom; it will rejoice greatly and shout for joy. ... v10 . They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. Isaiah 35:1-10

Joy and Gladness, Gladness and Joy, or Rejoice and be Glad, or rejoice greatly ARE ALL THEMES OF THE KINGDOM

The CROCUS was a YELLOW FLOWER which signified SPRING

LUKE 19:37 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**

Psalm 9:2 I will be glad and rejoice in you;

Psalm 31:7 I will be glad and rejoice in your love,

Psalm 96:11 Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;

Psalm 118:24 This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Matt 5:12 Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven,

Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Rev 19:7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

"JESUS IS LORD" WILL BE THE CRY

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

2. NATURE will DISPLAY GOD'S GLORY.

v2 The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,

the splendour of Carmel and

Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendour of our God.

v6 Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

v7 The burning sand will become a pool, the thirsty ground bubbling springs.

LEBANON – Cedars of Lebanon – FORESTS

CARMEL – Overlooking the valley of Megiddo

Rose of SHARON – Productive Area of land between Mediterranean and Mountains WATERS IN wilderness - Desert of Zin, at Kadesh (Moses struck rock)

BURNING SAND - "Mirage" will come real

Luke 19:40 "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."

JESUS IS LORD OVER NATURE

3. The DOWNCAST will be FILLED with HOPE.

v3 Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way; v4 say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear; your God will come, he will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you." Jesus began his public ministry doing this.

Luke 4:17-19 The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: v18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, v19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

JESUS IS LORD OVER EMOTIONS

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

4. PHYSICAL CHALLENGES will be REMOVED.

v5 Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. v6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy.

Straight after reading the passage out of Isaiah, Matthew records his next action as:

Matthew 4:23-24 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. v24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them.

JESUS IS LORD OVER DISEASE

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

5. Our ENEMIES will be GONE.

v8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness. **The** unclean will not journey on it;

When John The Baptist was born, this was said about JESUS by

Luke 1:67-74 His father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied: v68 "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people. v69 He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David v70 (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago), v71 salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us-- v72 to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant, v73 the oath he swore to our father Abraham: v74 to rescue us from the hand of our enemies, and to enable us to serve him without fear

6. SATAN would have LEFT "out the back door."

v9 No lion will be there, nor will any ferocious beast get up on it; they will not be found there.

The bible talks about Satan as a lion

1 Peter 5:8 Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

JESUS IS LORD OVER EVIL FORCES

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

7. The REDEEMED and RANSOMED will be with HIM.

v9 ... But only the redeemed will walk there, v10 and the ransomed of the LORD will return.

We often read this Scripture at Funerals

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. v17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. v18 Therefore encourage each other with these words.

JESUS IS LORD OVER DEATH

WHEN JESUS COMES TO TOWN

8. Its going the be the NOISIEST PARTY EVER.

v10 They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away. Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 19:37 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**

Revelation 5:11-13 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. **v12 In a loud voice they sang:** "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!" v13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

9. The ONLY ROAD IS CALLED "The Way of Holiness"

v8 And a highway will be there; it will be called the Way of Holiness.

HOLINESS has always been a prerequisite to be in the Presence of God

MOSES in Exodus 3:5 – THIS IS HOLY GROUND

ISAIAH in **Isaiah 6:1-5** In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. v2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. v3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." v4 At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. v5 "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."

Romans 12:1 Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, **holy and pleasing to God**--this is your spiritual act of worship.

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ--their Lord and ours:

Ephesians 1:3-4 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with **every spiritual blessing** in Christ. v4 For he chose us in him before the creation of the **world to be holy** and blameless in his sight. In love

JESUS IS LORD