

April 2, 2023, Palm Sunday

From Praise to Slander: The Amazing Grace of Jesus Christ!

Over 2,000 years ago our Lord Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. It was a Sunday that later become known as Palm Sunday. The people of Jerusalem heard Jesus was coming and became very excited rushing with palm branches in their hand to greet Him shouting praises. In just a few short days the enemy through **slander vision** changed how the people **saw** and what they **thought** about Jesus. Soon they were shouting "Crucify Him!" Today we too have palm branches in our hands and are shouting praises to our King as His return to Jerusalem is drawing near. We will not be deceived with slander vision! Let our hearts be filled with the love and grace of Jesus Christ!

Hosanna! Yash Na! The Eternal Shout!

John 12:12-13 *The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast (Passover), when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 took branches of **palm trees** and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "**Hosanna!** (Yeshua) 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! 'The King of Israel!'" Reference Scripture is **Ps 118:25-26***

Ps 118:25-26 *Save now, I pray, O LORD; O LORD, I pray, send now prosperity. 26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We have blessed you from the house of the LORD.*

Yasha na! Victory through Jesus!

Save: Strong's #3467, Hebrew, *yasha`* (yaw-shah'); rescue, **salvation**, save (-iour), **get victory**. From *yasha* comes the word **Yeshua** (Hosanna) and it means "**He shall save,**" **Now:** Strong's #4994, Hebrew *na'* (naw); "I pray," "now,"

Rev 7:9-12 *After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, **with palm branches in their hands**, 10 and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "**Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!**" 11 All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12 saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, Be to our God forever and ever. Amen."*

The mockery of a trial. They knew the verdict before it started. The High Priest and the Sanhedrin

Mark 14:61-65 *Again the high priest asked Him, saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" 62 Jesus said, "I am. And you will see the Son of Man **sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.**" 63 Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? 64 You have heard the **blasphemy!** What do you think?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death. The Governor Pilate was hoping to set Jesus free knowing the chief priests handed Him over because of envy (**Mark 15:6-15**).*

Slander changes our vision (slander vision) and we no longer **see** or **think** the same. Instead of seeing through God's light, we see through Satan's darkness and we become critical. Instead of building the Kingdom of God, we are now being used to tear it down. **Slander vision** not only stops the move of God around us, it will stop the move of God in us. Slander vision allows bitterness (poison) in our heart and this will hinder (even stop) us from receiving what God has for our life. We see through the eyes of our heart and if our heart is poisoned, we have blurred double-vision. Many people do not receive their physical and emotional healing because they will not let go of the lie of slander. The first recorded sin in the Bible was Eve receiving the **slander from Satan** about God and this changed how Adam and Eve **saw** and **knew** God forever...it broke their **obedience** and **relationship** and they lost all **authority** while at the same time their bodies began to die. **Slander vision** will steal our destiny. We can be saved, but not fulfill our destiny.

Acts 6:8-12 *And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people... 11 Then they **secretly induced** men to say, "We have heard him speak **blasphemous** words against Moses and God." 12 And they stirred up the people... These people thought they were doing God's work and speaking the truth.*

Stephen was moving in God's power, so the enemy slandered him in order to stop the move of God. Instead of people seeing the miracles he was doing as from God, they now **saw** Stephen as being against God. Again, slander changed how people **saw** and what they **thought** about Stephen. The enemy accused Stephen of the very thing he was doing! This is the same tactic the enemy is using today; to slander others with what he is guilty of.

Blasphemous: Strong's #989 Greek *blasphemos* (blas-fay-moss); from *blapto* "to injure" and *pheme* "speech" hence slanderous, abusive speech. **Slander vision!** Satan twists the intent of the truth to put people in bondage.

Slander vision is blasphemy against God because Jesus came to give the world life, not condemn and destroy it. This will always cause division. It is the spirit of the Accuser.

John 3:17 For God **did not** send His Son into the world to **condemn the world**, but that the world through Him might be saved. The number one thing God is after is a relationship with us through Jesus; the number one thing **slander vision** does is **destroy relationships**, thus destroying obedience and unity, causing division and rebellion.

Slander vision is a fault-finder; an accuser of the brethren. Instead of looking for the good, it is looking for the fault.

2 Peter 2:1-3 But there were also false prophets among the people, even as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive **heresies**, even denying the Lord who bought them, and bring on themselves swift destruction. 2 And many will follow their destructive ways, **because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed**.

Heresies Strong's #139 *haireseis* (hahee-res-is); "to choose". Substituting self-willed opinions for submission to the truth creating dissension and disunity. People will follow the destructive ways of *false prophets and *false teachers because of slander (blasphemy) to the truth and a prideful spirit that will embrace **their own opinion** over the Word of God (heresy). *Covetousness deceives and instead of building God's kingdom, we are building our own.

Rom 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to **obey**, you are that one's slaves whom you **obey**, whether of sin leading to death, or of **obedience** leading to righteousness? Also see **2 Pet 2:19**

Obedied: Strong's #5219 *hupakouo* (hoop-ak-oo-oh); to listen and respond as a subordinate. To hear, then respond, indicates our choice of who we just gave our authority to (who we obeyed). Eve listened to Satan in the Garden, than her response (to eat the forbidden fruit) put her under the authority of Satan. **Slander vision** will put an area of our heart under the authority of Satan. We can be saved, but still have slander vision. Many Christians are oppressed (not possessed) by demons because of **slander vision** giving Satan authority over an area of our heart.

Edification (Edi-vision) **Destroys Slander Vision! Edify and Glorify God! See Through Edda-vision!**

2 Cor 10:8 For even if I should boast somewhat more about our **authority**, which the Lord gave us for **edification** and not for your **destruction**, ***Our authority is not to lord over people and slander them; it is to build them up!

Edify: Strong's #3619, *oikodome* (oy-kod-om-ay'); architecture, a structure; confirmation: building especially one's faith. Edification speaks the truth in love so we can all grow together in Christ (**Eph 4:11-16**).

Rom 14:19 Therefore let us **pursue** the things which **make for peace** and the things by which one may **edify** another.

Phil 4:5-8 **Edi-vision**; focusing on the good things of God in order to bless others.

Luke 23:32-43 There were also two others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death. 33 And when they had come to the place called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand and the other on the left. 34 Then Jesus said, "**Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they do.**"

And they divided His garments and cast lots. 35 And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God."

36 The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, 37 and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself." 38 And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin, and Hebrew:

THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. 39 Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." 40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? 41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." 42 Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom."

43 And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

Prayer: "Father, forgive us for any slanderous words we have spoken, even against our enemies. May we embrace the love, grace and mercy of Jesus Christ, purifying our hearts from slander vision. Let not our hearts grow cold towards this lawless generation and we forgive them as You have forgiven us."

Please fast with me Good Friday from noon until noon Saturday. You are blessed!