

Johns Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Reverend Willie White, Jr., Pastor

The Sermon by Pastor Willie White, Jr.

April 5, 2020

Palm Sunday

Do You Have Staying Power? (John 12: 12-19)

This week, **my Christian brothers and sisters**, I was watching my favorite TV show Animal Planet. The zoologist talked about The African Cheetah and what I learned and heard about The African Cheetah blew my mind. The Zoologist said The African Cheetah must run down its prey to eat. The Zoologist said The African Cheetah is very fast. It can run at speeds of up to seventy miles an hour. Wow! Now that's fast, HOT DOG! The Zoologist said The African Cheetah is very fast but it has one problem, its heart is small and because its heart is small it tires quickly. The African Cheetah can run fast but it can't run long. If The African Cheetah doesn't catch its prey quickly, the Cheetah must end the chase. DO YOU HAVE STAYING POWER?

Here in our text this morning Jesus is entering into Jerusalem. This entrance has been tagged as triumphant entrance because the people are celebrating with palm trees and shouting Hosanna unto Jesus. In these verses I want to lift up three points.

(1) RELATIONSHIP (2) RELIANCE and (3) RESULTS.

Point number (1) RELATIONSHIP (companionship, fellowship, friendship). Our relationship to God is our most important relationship. **My Christian brothers and sisters** let's look at verses 12-13. The text says "much people" not some, not a portion but much people. We must understand this morning we have four different crowds of people on Palm Sunday. 1. We have the local people 2. People who heard about Jesus from the local people 3. Greeks they were there and 4. The Scribes and Pharisees they were there. They were all there for the wrong reasons. They were there because of what Jesus was able to do for them, not Grab, Drop & Go Message – "Grab a Sermon, Drop Offering and Go Home" - Coronavirus Pandemic 2019-2020

because He is the Son of God. Wow! We must make sure we are here for the right reason and the only way you will know you are here for the right reason, you must have a relationship with God. Your relationship with God will give you STAYING POWER. In verse 13 the text says they went out to meet Jesus. Jesus is showing the people that a relationship with Him superseded their religion. Religion has no STAYING POWER but a RELATIONSHIP with God does.

Point number (2) RELIANCE (consistency, dependence, integrity). As Christians we can rely on God. Reliability is a part of God's character. In verses 14-16 Jesus is trying to shift the people's minds from earthly things to heavenly things. Jesus said fear not in verse 15. Jesus is encouraging the people at this point because He realizes when you are relying on Him you will have some difficult moments, hardships and some trying times.

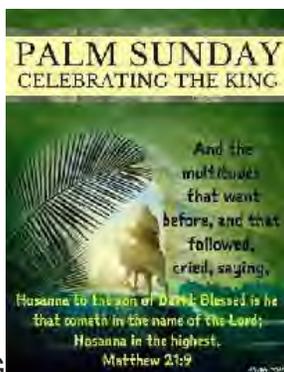
Point number (3) RESULTS (Achievements, conclusions, goals). True faith will bring real results. Verses 17-19 Shows us how Jesus was able to bring real results. Do you remember Jairus' daughter? She was dead but not buried. Jesus raised her up! Do you remember the widow's son? He was dead but not buried, Jesus raised him up. But Lazarus was dead and in his grave for four days and Jesus told him to come forth. When you have staying power you can resurrect things that are dead and that are buried.

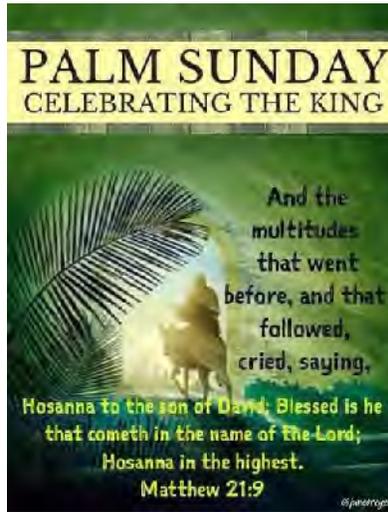
My church family it is imperative for us to see the hearts of the people in our text. The people in our text are like The African Cheetah: They can run fast but they can't run long; because their hearts were too small. We likewise rush into God's presence with excitement but because our hearts are small we don't have staying power. Jesus rode through waving branches to be crucified because the people's hearts were too small.

DO YOU HAVE STAYING POWER?

I LOVE BEING YOUR PASTOR.

PASTOR WHITE





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Please check texts, e-mails and website for updates johnschapelamec.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS – SUNDAY, APRIL 5, 2020

--Please continue to pray, stay home and heed all public directives regarding the **Coronavirus Pandemic**. **STAY SAFE – STAY HOME** as much as possible. Please be creative to find ways to communicate with others and to stay healthy and content. God is working it out for our good. Please call members, especially sick and shut-ins. See link below for details of the Governor's STAY IN PLACE directive effective at 5:00 p.m. on April 4, 2020.

<https://abc3340.com/news/coronavirus/what-alabamians-need-to-know-about-the-shelter-in-place-order>

--**JC MEMBERS ARE OBEYING THE LAW AND RESPONDING TO THE CENSUS.** -- The following households have reported that they are ACCOUNTED FOR in the 2020 Census, as required by law and because they are good citizens:

Pastor and Mrs. White & Family

LauReen McDaniel & Family

Constance Jones

Dianne Durdin & Family

Carlos & Lynette Robinson

Mack & LaToya Chambers & Family

Bobby & Evadna Moment

Marion Griffin

Geraldine Booth

Dr. Russell & Mrs. Helen Nichols

Ira "Pat" Brown

Johnnie Sanders & Family

Vernetta DeRamus

Dr. Stafford & Mrs. Bessie Thompson

Ann & Nikki Mills Family

Richard & Shelia Robinson & Family

Betty Simmons & Vivian Johnson & Family

Franklin & Marge Simmons

The Jones, McDaniel and Durdin families replied to "The Census Challenge" on Census Day, April 1, and will receive a token of appreciation!

Please respond! Please respond! Check out the website at www.census2020.gov and encourage others to respond. . Remember if you do not respond, someone will knock on the door in a few days to request the info. Not only is your response require by today’s law, but please check out these New Testament Scriptures regarding Census: “In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world...So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.” (Luke 2:1-5) ♣ “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.” (Luke 4:18) ♣ “But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” (1 Corinthians 12:24-26)

Prayer Concerns
Week of April 5-11, 2020

PRAYER LIST

Sister Eleanor Bailey
Sister Jennifer Bigham
Sister Debra D. Brown -Doing well. Relocated this week to live with daughter, Jessica Brown in West Virginia-
Sister Geraldine Booth
Brother Mack Chambers
Sister Brenda Crawford
Caiden M. Gary, Grandson of Sis C. Jones
Sister Annie Pearl Frazier
Sister Ruby Grayer
Sister Dorothy Holmes
Sister Kim Jackson—Sister of Bro. Golden
Sister Mable Mays
Sister Ann McGaughey
Bereavement – Family of Sister Mattie Mayes – McGaughey & Mayes Families
Dr. Russell Nichols—Recovering from surgery, doing well
Sister Minnie Powell, Mother of Sis. White
Sister Rosetta White & Brother Willie White, Sr. — Parents of Pastor White
Sister Johnnie Sanders
Brother Larry Wilson—Husband of Sis. Shun Wilson
Sister Eloise Williams
***New entries in bold print**



Please keep the Mayes & McGaughey families in prayer during this time of bereavement. And remember to pray for and check on our shut-in members.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Apr 5	Jadasen Malinda Renell Baker
Apr 9	Debra Fay Brown
Apr 9	Asia Boyd
April 10	Ida Harris
April 10	Galen Rush

Family and Friends,

Join Bishop Harry L. Seawright and an amazing cast of stars on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020 for an incredible Easter Movie, at 3:00 pm (EDT).

Invite your entire family to witness this Easter Sunday movie. The cast includes: the amazing Chaka Khan; Michelle Williams, from Destiny Child; Wendy Raquel Robins and so many more.



REVIVAL MOVIE REVIEW

ENDORSED BY BISHOP HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT

Presiding Prelate of the Ninth Episcopal District (State of Alabama)

REVIVAL

What an appropriate time to be reminded of the power of “Revival” which means to renew. This is a moving, alive, energizing, yet innovative way of witnessing the works of Jesus’ life as written in the Gospel of John, You will be thrilled to see the Word become alive through the life, works, death and resurrection of Jesus as he becomes the Christ.

Indeed, He has RISEN!

Please follow these very important instructions to ensure the proceeds are directed to the 9th Episcopal District **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND**:

* Go to – ninthamechurch.org and Click on the Revival flyer

* Scroll down and select download at -

BISHOP HARRY L. SEAWRIGHT (9TH DIS.) AME

Follow the download instructions to apply this code **(BHLS)** to ensure you receive your movie at the discounted price of

\$6.99



WWW.EASTERSUNDAY2020.ORG

04.12.20

"EASTER" MOVIE

FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS ONLINE!
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HARRY LENNIX

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11 AM PST, 3 PM EST & 2 PM CST!

www.eastersunday2020.org

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STARRING:



Revival Movie Review: Bishop Harry L. Seawright,

Presiding Bishop of the
Ninth Episcopal District
(State of Alabama)

Revival:

What an appropriate time to be reminded of the power of "Revival" which means to renew. This is a moving, alive, energizing, yet innovative way of witnessing the works of Jesus' life as written in the Gospel of John. You will be thrilled to see the Word become alive through the life, works, death and resurrection of Jesus as He becomes the Christ. Indeed he has RISEN!

REVIVAL!
The Gospel of Soul



New Musical Inspired by the Book of John.