

Untamed Colts

Scripture Reading — Matthew 21:1-7

Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. — Matthew 21:2

On this day before Palm Sunday, let's look at the almost overlooked little animal that is so important to Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Jesus tells his disciples to go into the village, untie a donkey and her colt, and bring them to him. Mark and Luke describe it as a colt that "no one has ever ridden" (Mark 11:2; Luke 19:30). And selecting a donkey's colt, Matthew explains, fulfills a prophecy (Zechariah 9:9). Riding a donkey's colt identifies the rider as coming in peace.

What's striking is how that donkey, never before ridden, submitted to Jesus without resisting. Even the loud "Hosanna" shouts of the people seemed to have no impact on this animal. Such unnatural behavior of this donkey's foal is as instructive as it is miraculous. Our God has dominion over all of his creation.

Did Jesus look for the same submission from his disciples—total surrender to the Master? Paul wrote later, "I urge you . . . in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God" (Romans 12:1). Perhaps our thinking about this colt should prompt us to ask whether we're submissive to the Lord. Or do we tend to act as might be expected of a stubborn donkey, braying in protest and pulling against the lead?

Prayer

Lord, Master of all nature, lead us gently to surrender to your control, submitting our hearts, our minds, and our very lives to your perfect will. For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Devotion topics: [Bible](#), [Life of Jesus](#), [Life](#), [Christian Life](#), [Submission](#), [Seasons](#), [Easter](#)

<https://today.reframemedia.com/devotions/untamed-colts>

Printed on August 24, 2019

