Who Spread the Palm Branches? (John 12:12-19)

Dr. John Niemelä

April 1, 2012, at Harvey Park Baptist Church, Denver, CO Messages posted at <u>www.TheMessageofLife.com</u>

INTRODUCTION TO THE MESSAGE:

CHRONOLOGY:

John 10:22-39 was at Ḥanukkah (Dec 18, A.D. 32)

John 12:1 arrival in Bethany (Sat., Mar 28, A.D. 32)

Six days before Passover (per John 12:1)

John 12:9 crowds come to Bethany (Sun., Mar 29)

Five days before Passover: **People traveled that day**

John 12:12ff. Palm Monday (Mon., Mar 30)

Four days before Passover

..... (Tue/Wed = three days/two days before Passover)

John 13:1–18:27 Maundy Thursday (Thu., Apr 2)

The day before Passover

John 18:28–19:42 Good Friday (Fri., Apr 3)

Passover

John 20:1-23. Easter (Sun., Apr 5, A.D. 33)

Crowds went back and forth between Jerusalem and Bethany a day before the Triumphal entry: John 12:9-12. Thus, the day before the Triumphal entry was not a Sabbath. I regard it as Palm Monday, not Palm Sunday.

What led people in John 12:12-19 to spread Palm Branches 2 before Jesus as He entered Jerusalem? (Let's back up)

John 12:17-18

John 12:9-11

John 11:45-46

The raising of Lazarus caused multitudes to believe in Christ, which caused a crisis for the Sanhedrin

Raising of Lazarus causes Sadducees (chief priests) to join with leading Pharisees: *Jesus must die* (John 11:49-52)

Jesus goes into hiding (11:53-57)

Many believed in Jesus when they met Lazarus and met Jesus in Bethany (12:9-11)	Unbelievers quarrelled when Jesus said that He, the Son of Man, the Messiah, would be lifted up (crucified) (12:32-36)
Believers laid palm branches as Jesus entered Jerusalem (12:12-18)	Despite His many signs, most rejected Him (12:37)
The Sanhedrin panicked as people laid palm branches before Jesus (12:19)	However, even among the Sanhedrin, many believed in Him (12:42) We will explain this passage further later this month
Diaspora Jews (<i>Greeks</i>) wanted to meet Jesus, in keeping with Deuteronomy 30 (12:20-26)	CONCLUSION This is not the same crowd that yelled, "Crucify! Crucify Him!" Believers laid palm fronds before Him
	Unbelievers opposed Him, some even plotted His death