

# John 12:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written,

## Analysis

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Jesus finds a young donkey and sits on it, deliberately fulfilling Zechariah 9:9. The humble mount contrasts warrior kings' war horses, demonstrating the kingdom's spiritual nature. Jesus orchestrates this prophetic fulfillment, showing sovereignty over messianic revelation's timing and manner. The donkey represents peace, not war; humility, not pride. This dramatizes the first advent's purpose: not conquering Rome but conquering sin. The act rebukes the crowd's militaristic expectations while affirming genuine messiahship.

## Historical Context

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Matthew and Mark record that Jesus arranged the donkey beforehand (Matt 21:2-3). Kings rode horses for war, donkeys for peace. Solomon rode David's mule at his coronation (1 Kings 1:33).

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does Jesus' choice of mount correct misguided messianic expectations?

2. What does this prophetic fulfillment teach about Jesus' deliberate self-revelation?
3. In what ways does humble obedience better demonstrate kingdom power than military might?

## Interlinear Text

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εὗρὼν	δὲ	οὐ	Ἰησοῦς	όνάριον	ἐκάθισεν	εἰπ'
when he had found	And	G3588	Jesus	a young ass	sat	thereon
G2147	G1161		G2424	G3678	G2523	G1909
αὐτός	καθώς	ἐστιν	γεγραμμένον			
G846	as	it is	written			
	G2531	G2076	G1125			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Zechariah 9:9** (Parallel theme): Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

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