

Luke 19:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Saying, Go ye into the village over against you; in the which at your entering ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat: loose him, and bring him hither.

Analysis

Ye shall find a colt tied, whereon yet never man sat (πῶλον δεδεμένον, ἐφ' ὃν οὐδεὶς πώποτε ἀνθρώπων ἐκάθισεν, pōlon dedemenon, eph' hon oudeis pōpote anthrōpōn ekathisen)—Christ's supernatural knowledge is on display. The colt (πῶλος, pōlos) refers to a young donkey, and its never-ridden status marks it as fitting for sacred use (Numbers 19:2, Deuteronomy 21:3). An untrained animal would normally be difficult to control, yet this colt submits to Christ—a sign of creation's recognition of its Creator.

This detail fulfills Zechariah 9:9 precisely: 'Behold, thy King cometh unto thee...lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.' Jesus deliberately stages a messianic claim that any Torah-literate Jew would recognize. The peaceful donkey contrasts with the warhorse Roman emperors rode, signaling a different kind of kingdom.

Historical Context

In the ancient Near East, kings rode donkeys during peacetime and horses during war. Solomon rode David's mule to his coronation (1 Kings 1:33). An unblemished, never-ridden animal was required for sacred purposes. Jesus's choice of a humble donkey rather than a royal stallion subverted expectations of a political-military messiah who would overthrow Rome.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. What does the untrained colt's submission to Jesus reveal about Christ's authority over creation?
2. How does Jesus's choice of a donkey rather than a warhorse redefine what messianic kingship means?
3. In what ways do you resist Christ's claim to be the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy?

Interlinear Text

εἰπὼν, Ὑπάγετε εἰς τὴν κατέναντι κώμην ἐν ὃν
Saying **Go ye** **into** ^{G3588} **over against** **the village** **you in** **the which**
G2036 G5217 G1519 G2713 G2968 G1722 G3739

εἰσπορευόμενοι εὕρήσετε πῶλον δεδεμένον ἐφ' ὃν
at your entering **ye shall find** **a colt** **tied** **whereon** **the which**
G1531 G2147 G4454 G1210 G1909 G3739

οὐδεὶς πώποτε ἀνθρώπων ἐκάθισεν λύσαντες αὐτὸν
yet never ^{G4455} **man** **sat** **loose** **him**
G3762 G444 G2523 G3089 G846

ἀγάγετε
and bring
G71

