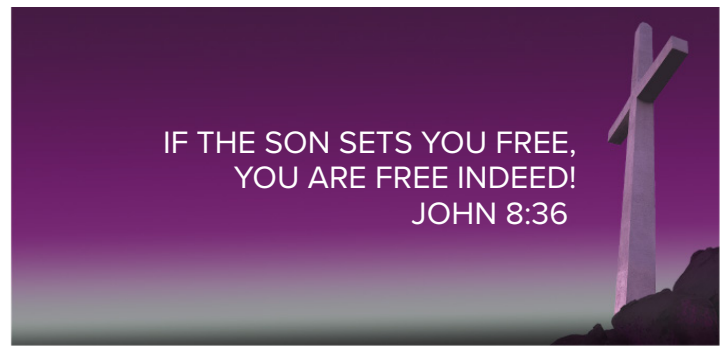


Jesus IOI

“Grace Thoughts”



A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

“This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet.” —Matthew 21:4

To follow our ministerial calling, we decided to move to another town, where our income would be considerably lower. Wondering how we would be able to afford house payments with the reduced income, we decided to explore a new home community. As we got there, we both got the impression to pause and pray. We inquired about a house that we really liked and calculated what our house payment would be. I left the place with tears of thanksgiving, for the payment was less than half of our previous house payment, and we could easily afford it. But, of course, God knew that ahead of time!

We can rest in God’s pre-knowledge and pre-provision for every situation. During Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we are made aware of His complete knowledge about, and provision for, the situation ahead. Jesus sent two disciples: “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me” (Matthew 21:2). Jesus gave specific instructions as to what they were to say if questioned. This is the only time that Jesus rode an animal. He always walked, yet for these last few miles He needed a colt in order to enact a particular prophecy. Matthew indicates that the prophecy was from Zechariah 9:9 (with Isaiah 62:11): “This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ‘Say to the daughter of Zion, “Behold your king is coming to you, gentle, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden” ’ ” (Matthew 21:4, 5). Some scholars suggest that Jesus had prearranged for this animal, but even if that’s the case, the point still stands. Jesus knew the prophecy; He planned the enactment of the fulfillment of that particular prophecy; He knew where to find the animal; and He gave specific instructions to His disciples. Every part of Jesus’ ministry followed a divine plan, even in the smallest details. Rest assured that God knows and provides for everything that you and I need for our salvation and our daily lives. He certainly goes *ahead* of us!

Talbot, Elizabeth *Jesus Wins!*, p. 44.