

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

by Wynne DeWyn

GENRE: Drama

SYNOPSIS: The man searches for the donkey that was taken for Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. By following the donkey, the man finds a teacher, king and savior.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: To pull off this monologue, the actor playing Eliazasheph needs to take over the stage, playing out the parts of the others he encounters in his story. Be sure to play up the humor, not allowing any pauses in the action unless necessary for dramatic effect.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 1

TOPIC: Palm Sunday, Biblical Times

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Luke 19:28-38

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Worship Service

CHARACTERS: (Elly-iza-shef) - A poor man from the Biblical era

PROPS: None needed

COSTUMES: Biblical attire

SOUND: One wireless mike

LIGHTING: General Stage

SETTING: General

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ISSN 1084-5917

Drama Ministry is a division of
Belden Worship Resources
www.beldenworshipresources.com

Publisher: **Regi Stone**

Executive Editor: **Kimberlee Crisafulli** / Assistant Editor: **Scott Crain**

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Lights up. ELIAZASHEPH ENTERS.

ELIAZASHEPH: My name is Eliazasheph. Now that's a pretty big name for a person of no significance. Yes, I am a man with no property, no great contributions, no fame. When I walk down the street, people do not point and nod in wonder, or quote my name like they do the big Jewish leaders of our time. You see, I am poor, and therefore, of little note. But I have seen things. And I was given a gift. A gift more precious than gold. Just think! A man like me! Of no significance. And I thought I was being the generous one.

You see, it all started with Lazarus. Maybe you've heard of him. Now, Lazarus had been up and about for quite some time already, but the word of how Jesus had raised him from the dead spread like wildfire. People came from all over to see what was going on. I lived in the outskirts of Jerusalem in a poor section of town. All I really had to my name was a donkey that my father left me before he died. I loved Zephana-Zeph, that's what I called her-and her colt. We were quite the little trio. I carried jugs of water from the wells to the people from the other side of town-the nice side of town. Zeph hauled water all day long without complaint. It was kind of cute, I guess you'd say, the way Zeph's colt just followed her as we traveled all over Jerusalem. Not a bad way to make a living.

Well, Jerusalem was buzzing. People were talking about this Jesus. The Pharisees were on the lookout. They were suspicious of Jesus and thought he might take over their leadership. And they did not want any uprising from the people. *(Looks around suspiciously, whispers)* That might make the Romans angry.

I was just finishing up after hauling water all day. I always clean Zeph's hooves after our day's work, so I was bent over, holding her hoof between my knees. She started getting restless, and neighed and tried to turn around. "What's the matter, Zeph?" I asked. I straightened up and saw two men untying Zeph's colt. The nerve! *(Moves quickly to other side of stage, confrontational)* "Hey! What are you doing??" I yelled at them, running. I was ready to knock them both down for trying to steal my colt-Zeph's colt. "Why are you loosing that colt?" I hollered. But halfway to them, I just stopped. Maybe it was the look on their faces, I don't know, but something in my heart just swept all the anger away. They spoke to me, but not with guilty looks or lies. They just simply said, "The Lord has need of it." *(Faces audience)* They said it like I would understand. Like I knew who this "Lord" was. *(Slows, introspective)* And yet, somehow, I did. And you know, the funny thing is, Zeph quieted down just like that. The Lord has need of it. I walked over and helped them untie Zeph's colt. They smiled at me and walked away.

After a few minutes, I followed them. Something was definitely up. People were running from all over shouting, "Hosanna!" and "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "The King of Israel!" *(Struggles to see past "crowd")*