

## Triumphal entry

It was Passover time! Jerusalem was full of people coming to celebrate the Passover when they remembered how God had led them out of slavery in Egypt through the water to freedom...

Jerusalem was an occupied city. It was ruled by the Romans and everywhere there were Roman soldiers watching to see that the people kept the Roman laws. The Jewish priests and Pharisees were watching too. They watched to make sure people kept the religious laws.

The people of Jerusalem were waiting. They were waiting for the Messiah, God's chosen one, who would set them free from the Romans and be their king forever.

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, the people thought that time had come. They were so excited that they took off their cloaks and threw them down on the road. Then they got branches off the trees and laid them down the road as well.

They shouted:

"Hosanna!"

"Here comes the King! Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"God's kingdom is coming!"

But one of Jesus's enemies said: "Tell your disciples to be quiet!"

Jesus replied: "I tell you if they are quiet, the stones themselves will start shouting."

Jesus rode up the hill towards the temple and the children ran ahead shouting, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

But the priests were angry...