

THE WENCHOSTER BIBLE

Matthew 21: 1-17

1. And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the Mount of Olives, then Jesus saith unto the drover, How much? And the drover replied, Verily, the meter showeth 10 denarii.
2. And Jesus saith unto Judas, Pay him. And lo, Judas did reach into the common purse and pay the drover, but without tip. Then Jesus sent two disciples saying unto them, Go into the village over against you, and straightway ye shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her, which behoves an unusual coupling: loose them and bring them unto me.
3. And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he shall debate with his neighbours what manner of request this shall be. And then ye shall say unto him, Get thee a move on, we haven't got all day, and he shall send them.
4. And the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them.
5. And brought the ass, and the colt, and lacking a saddle for either beast they put on them their clothes.
6. And Peter said, Lord, it is good that we are here to gird these beasts with our cloaks, and they set him on the ass.
7. And Judas said, What about the colt? And Jesus answered, It is an embellishment unto the telling thereof, and Judas was quieted.
8. And a very great multitude spread their garments in the way, notwithstanding the questions of who shall wash them afterwards: others cut down branches from the trees, oak, ash, larch and palm, and strawed them in the way.
9. And the multitude that went before did sell souvenir booklets and badges bearing the image and inscription Son of David; and they that followed cried, saying, Hosanna to the son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the Highest. And some did sing the same to a chant by Merbecke.
10. And when he was come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, Who is this? And the multitude said, This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.
11. And Jesus went into the temple of God, and cast out them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the moneychangers, and the seats of them that sold postcards and illustrated booklets, and the stalls selling plaster models of the temple, and ice creams, and them that sold doves.
12. And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer; but ye have made it a second-rate entertainment centre, with Splat the Rat and other fairground diversions. It is a den of thieves.
13. And the blind and the lame and those suffering from scrofula, psoriasis, and other nasty skin diseases came to him in the temple; and he healed them or gave them a packet of tablets with the instructions to take one tablet twice a day.
14. And John did remonstrate with him saying, Surely, Lord thou meanest one dose twice a day, for how cans't thou take the same tablet twice? And Jesus replied, With men this is impossible, but to God all things are possible.
15. And when the chief priest, scribes and pharmacists saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the son of David, give us some chocolate; they were sore displeased.
16. And said unto him, Hearest thou what these say? And Jesus saith unto them, Yes; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and suckling cometh all manner of things?
17. And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there on half-board, and lo the bedroom bar was fully stocked with fish and barley loaves.