

For the Love of an Imperative Verb Matthew 21:1-11

Palm / Passion Sunday, Liturgy of the Palms, Year A, RCL

¹When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “**Go** [πορεύεσθε, **poreúesthe**] into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and **bring** [ἀγάγετέ, **agágete**] them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, just say this ‘The Lord needs them.’ And he will send them immediately.” ⁴This took place to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

⁵**Tell** [εἴπατε, **eípate**] the daughter of Zion,

Look [ἰδοὺ, **idou**], your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey,”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; ⁷they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds were saying, “This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.”

[NRSV89]

21:2

πορεύεσθε, **poreúesthe**; *vb*: *pres mid / pass imperative 2nd pers pl* from πορεύω:

translations: **go** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright &

Mann, Filson], also **id** [IAdNT]

ἀγάγετέ, **agágete**; *vb*: *2nd aor act imperative 2nd pers pl* from ἄγω:

translations: **bring** [NRSV89, ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NIV11, NJB, NKJV, NRSVue; Albright &

Mann, Filson], also **traed** [IAdNT]

21:5

εἴπατε, **eípate**; *vb*: *2nd aor act imperative 2nd pers pl* from λέγω:

translations: **tell** [NRSV89, NGEINT, NKJV, NRSVue], also **announce** [Albright & Mann],

say [ESV, NAB, NIV11, NJB; Filson], **decid** [IAdNT]

ἰδοὺ, **idou**; vb: 2nd aor mid **imperative** 2nd pers pl from ὁράω:

translations: **look** [NRSV89, NJB, NRSVue], also **behold** [ESV, NAB, NGEINT, NKJV;
Albright & Mann, Filson], **see** [NIV11], **he aquí** [IAdNT]

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