

**Mad? Or glad?**  
**Matt 21:6-11;23-32**

Wherever Jesus goes some people will be mad, and others will be glad.

**Why were the crowds glad?**

They thought Jesus might be a liberator

“Hosanna... Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.” is from Psalm 118, which is about God intervening to save his people when they were beaten down by their enemies.

And they were sure he was a prophet

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?” <sup>11</sup> The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

**Why were the leaders mad?**

For the same reasons...

They thought Jesus might be a liberator

And the first thing people do after they throw out an occupying army is get rid of those who collaborated with them, like the priests.

And they were afraid he might be a prophet

After all, they had been running the shop for a long time without God on the scene. Doing religion without God is really pretty easy, just say all the right words.

**Two sons, two responses**

*“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”*

It isn't enough to say the right words. *“If you love me you will do what I say.”* (John 14.15)

**Which are you? Mad? Or glad?**

Whenever Jesus comes to us we have the option of responding in one of two ways. You can see Jesus as a threat. Or you can respond like the crowds, “Hosanna” “Save me.” “Save me from myself. Save me from my past. Save me from this mess I'm in. Make my life new again.”

If you want to be glad, then all you need to do is turn from following your own way and cry out to Jesus, “Save me!”