Sermon: "Jesus: From Messiah to Misunderstood"

Text: John 12:12-19 (page 899 in pew bible)

I. Setting of the stage – Jesus' ministry somewhat "secret"

Matthew 21:10 "When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred* and asked, "Who is this?"

*Greek "seisthay" to our word "seismograph"

II. A shift in strategy: Jesus' entry wildly public; Why?

A. To magnify His salvation

Acts 26:26 "I am convinced that none of this has escaped his notice, because it was not done in a corner."

B. To manifest His sovereignty

Mark 14:1-2 "Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. "But not during the festival," they said, "or the people may riot."

Acts 4:26-28 "The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.' Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen."

III. A misunderstood mission

A. Jesus' mission misunderstood then.

B. Jesus' mission: misunderstood now?

I Peter 3:18 "For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to God..."