

SIMON OF CYRENE
TEASER

Written by

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EXT. STREET JERUSALEM - MORNING

Simon and Jason each have a cart loaded with palm leaves.
They push it to the gate.

People are lining the streets and looking down the hill.

SIMON

How are we going to charge for
these?

JASON

Today is a special day. We are not
going to charge.

Simon looks at him like he is crazy.

JASON (CONT'D)

The Hebrews have a tradition of
pouring drink till it overflows the
cup. It signifies the blessings
that overflow in their lives. Like
your Father still paying on a loan
that has been settled years ago.
Today we bless the people who have
been so good to Naomi and myself.

(beat)

Don't fret I'll have you share in
the blessings also.

Simon laughs.

Together they hand out palm leaves. As they begin to run out
there is a great roar of the crowd.

At the bottom of the road, a figure is riding a small donkey.
It is Jesus.

The crowd is chanting "HOSANNA! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN
THE NAME OF THE LORD! BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL."

People are passing the remainder of the branches down the
line.

JESUS

Peace, Peace be to you sons and
daughters of Israel.

They are throwing the branches on the ground before the
donkey.

Some are throwing their cloaks and blankets.

Realizing that he stands out because of his clothing Simon backs into the crowd not wanting to be noticed.

The donkey stops right in front of him and Jesus and Simon eyes LOCK.

Jesus SMILES but says nothing.

Simon just looks.

The donkey again begins to move.

The crowd continues to chant.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Peace, peace be unto you.

The crowd follows in behind Jesus.

Simon moves the cart onto the road. Jason moves his besides him.

JASON
Do you realize what just happened?
That was prophesied six hundred
years ago. Simon, you just
witnessed history.

SIMON
He looked at me.

JASON
I saw.

SIMON
It was like he knew me. I am not
even Hebrew.

JASON
You definitely don't look Hebrew.

SIMON
But he is the Hebrew King.

JASON
Not exactly. In fact, I wonder what
King Herod Antipas will say about
this. Oh, I hope Naomi has gotten a
chance to see this. She will be so
excited.

(beat)
Our true King has arrived.

They start to push up the hill.

SIMON
So you are Hebrew now?

JASON
No, I am still Greek by blood but
my heart can choose to which King I
am loyal. My heart chooses Jesus.
(shouting)
HOSANNA! BLESSED IS THE KING OF
ISRAEL. HOSANNA!

They continue to push.

EXT. SHOP COURTYARD - LATER

Jason enters followed by Simon.

JASON
(yelling)
Naomi, Naomi!

No reply.

JASON (CONT'D)
She still must be out.

They push their cart and park them in by the back wall.

JASON (CONT'D)
Everything has its place.

SIMON
My Dad says the same thing.

JASON
It was drilled into us by our
father.

SIMON
Tell me about him.

JASON
What has your dad told you?

SIMON
Not much really. We don't talk
much. I think I let him down
because I am, well, quiet.

JASON

That would bother your dad. A man who talks so much he had to learn a million languages so he could NOT shut up in any of them.

Simon smiles.

Bursting in and out of breath. Naomi puts her hands on her knees.

NAOMI

Did you see him?

JASON

We saw...

NAOMI

Praise God, Our savior has come.

JASON

We were...

NAOMI

I followed him to the temple. The crowd was chanting. We were all so happy. He went into the temple and it all went nuts.

Both turn to look at her.

She slowly struts.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

He walks up the stairs and sees the money changers. The merchants. The bloodsuckers who sell animals for sacrifice.

She starts throwing scarves and blankets into the air from baskets against the wall of the shop.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

He over turns tables, He lets all the doves go. They are flying here and there. The goats and lambs are running. People are screaming.

She takes scarves and flutters them up and down and runs around the courtyard.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

It was so amazing. He was saying
(in man's voice)
(MORE)

NAOMI (CONT'D)

You den of thieves, get out of my
Father's house. You den of vipers.

(normal voice)

He was like a crazy man. Even the
Pharisees ran from him. It was so
wonderful.

She takes a few deep breaths.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Of course, then the Romans came and
I left. Stupid Romans.

Both men smile at the feminine story.

JASON

What happened to Jesus?

NAOMI

I didn't see. It was chaos. I ran
into a few friends and they said
they saw him leaving the city.

Running into Jason's arms.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

Do you think it is true? Do you
think? He could really be the
Savior?

JASON

I believe he is.

Jumping up and down in his arms.

NAOMI

I am so happy, so happy.

Looking at Simon.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

You must think I am crazy.

He shakes his head no.

NAOMI (CONT'D)

I am going to start a meal. We will
have wine tonight. This is a reason
to celebrate. Our Savior has come.
Hosanna!!!

JASON

Hosanna!!!

They both start to pick up the scarves and blankets.

JASON (CONT'D)

We should go in and make sure she
doesn't destroy the house with her
excitement.

Tapping Simon on the shoulder they turn into the shop. Simon
puts the blankets he had folded on a shelf by the door.