

“Behold, your King is
coming to you...”

Matthew 21:5



With what am I preparing to meet the King?



Palms?



**Tree
branches?**



Coats?



**Crying out
before Him?**

Palms: Symbol of Victory ⁽¹⁾

- “To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.”

Revelation 3:21

- The war against the passions:
“And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.” *Galatians 5:24*



Palms: Symbol of Victory ⁽²⁾

- The war against the tyranny of sin: “Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts.” *Romans 6:12*
- The war against the thoughts: “bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ”
2 Corinthians 10:5



Coats: Symbol of Sacrifice

- “The martyrs will come, bearing their afflictions...”
Conclusion of Batos Theotokias
- All what we accept to loose for the sake of the knowledge of Christ
- What we rely upon as a means of security
- The suffering that I accept with thanksgiving



Crying out before Him: Symbol of Witnessing ⁽¹⁾

- St. John the Baptist was known as a voice crying in the wilderness
- The prophets and the apostles and the servants of the word are among this group
- My testimony about Him and His goodness to those around me



Crying out before Him: Symbol of Witnessing ⁽¹⁾

- Witnessing by my life that He, indeed, lives in me
- Living as the salt of the earth, keeping it safe from decay



Tree branches: Symbol of Virtues ⁽¹⁾

- The righteous will come at the Last Day bearing their virtues
- These are the fruits we bear when we, as branches, abide in the vineyard
- These are the fruits we bear when the Holy Spirit works in our penitent hearts



Tree branches: Symbol of Virtues (2)

- Unless we bear fruits we are in danger of being cut off:

“And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire”

Matthew 3:10

