



*The place where
people meet...*

The Palms Room was inspired by and is a memorial to the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday some 2000 years ago. The week that many now refer to as "Holy Week" began with **Palm Sunday**, ending with the miracle of Easter Sunday. Jerusalem, which had a normal population of about 50,000 at this time, had at least tripled in size because of the influx of pilgrims celebrating the Jewish Holiday, Passover.

Early Sunday morning Jesus made His bold public entry into the city. This was the end of all privacy and safety for Jesus, and the beginning of what would be an inevitable collision course with the religious and political authorities. Crowds began to gather to see the rabbi from Galilee. The procession began accompanied by shouting and singing from the throngs of people. They honored Jesus by throwing down their garments, as well as **palm fronds, the Jewish symbol of triumph**, on the pathway to cushion His ride.

The priestly establishment was understandably disturbed and offended, as **the palm was the national emblem of an independent Palestine. Palms were, in fact, revered and esteemed as Jewish flags.** The Old Testament prophet, Zechariah, had foretold the arrival of the Messianic king in Jerusalem by way of the humble conveyance of a colt. The crowd hailed Jesus as "the son of David", contributing further to the controversy over Jesus' ministry and message as the "great High Priest over the house of God."

Notwithstanding Roman domination, the **palm frond** was a prominent and very significant symbol for the Jews serving as **a defiant expression of their sense of independence and national pride.** Archeological excavations have produced Roman coins, impressed with the head of Tiberias (idolatrous to the Jewish subjects), but over-stamped with a palm frond.

The Palms Room logo of **three palm fronds joined together** is equally significant representing the three-in-one nature of the Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Palms Room is the result of the talents and efforts of several people. Thank you to my daughter, Stefanie, for her beautiful creative design and loving devotion. Thank you to my wife, Terri, whose eye for colors and heart for helping made an essential contribution to this endeavor. Thank you to my sister, Rebecca, for her faithful assistance, support, and prayers. A special thanks to my friend, and general contractor, Dan Flanigan, whose expertise and friendship served a vital role in the successful completion of this project. And thank you to all of our family and friends who supported and encouraged us as we saw our vision become a reality. Finally, I am thankful for God's inspiration and provision that have made all that has been accomplished possible.

My prayer is that *The Palms Room* will truly be "the place where people meet" and all who come will experience uncommon joy and a renewed sense of peace just as promised by Jesus, the One who traveled that palm-covered pathway on behalf of any and all who would believe in Him.

Steve Sorenson, Owner

Palm Sunday, March 20, 2005

The Palms Center

952 S. Mount Vernon Ave. ■ Colton, CA 92324

Phone (909) 433-9884 ■ Fax (909) 433-9135

www.thepalmsroom.com ■ info@thepalmsroom.com