Interview with New Testament Donkeys

CHARACTERS: 4 *JACK is rather furtive, speaks like he's in danger, glancing around nervously, speaking in hushed tones, etc.*
PROPS: JACK/007 has a fedora and sunglasses or a ski mask on as a disguise. 008 wears a hat with flowers and 009 another appropriate hat.
SETTING: TV or radio show
RUN TIME: Approximately 7 minutes
Based on Zech 9:9 and Matthew 2 and 21:1 - 16

VONTRICE: Welcome to Animal World. I'm Vontrice Veterinarian the host of this show. On every show we examine the wonders of God creation in the animal world. Today we're going to talk to a couple of donkeys from the New Testament. Today, our first guest is….. Hmmm. there is no name. Just the number 007.

JACK: That's right. No name. I'm 007 - a secret agent donkey.

VONTRICE: Since all male donkeys are called Jacks, would it be OK to call you Jack instead of 007?

JACK: Sure. Jack will do. Good undercover name.

VONTRICE: What's all the secrecy about anyway? You appear to be wearing a disguise.

JACK: Can't tell ya too many details, ya know. I was part of the getaway plan. That much I can tell ya. Herod was out to kill the baby.

VONTRICE: Are you talking about when Mary, Joseph and Jesus had to flee …

JACK: Shhhhh. Keep it down. Very dangerous situation. Let me start at the beginning. I was taking them to Bethlehem. As you might know, donkeys are excellent mounts for fragile cargo. We are sure footed, require less food than a horse or ox and we are particularly patient and persistent animals and as a result make excellent pack animals.

VONTRICE: So what valuable cargo were you carrying?

JACK: A pregnant woman who was carrying the Messiah. Let's refer to her as Mary…. Mary Smith.

VONTRICE: Where were you headed?

JACK: Bethlehem, for the census. It was a busy place, big crowds. We blended in. Once we arrived we holed up in an out of the way stable until the baby was born. I thought it would be the ideal hiding place, me blending in with all the other donkeys and sheep. But we were found out.

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VONTRICE: How did that happen?

JACK: Big star appeared in the sky. All these shepherds coming and going and spreading the word. Pretty soon it was all over the city. But I knew the jig was up when these three high profile kings showed up with a ton of gifts.

VONTRICE: What kind of gifts?

JACK: Gold, frankincense and Myrrh. Worth loads of cash. Seems like they had tipped off King Herod. Now King Herod was jealous of his power. When he heard from there a new king had been born he wanted to know where so he could, you know…. Off the baby.

VONTRICE: He was planning to kill Jesus?

JACK: Shhhhh. No names, please. God appeared to the kings in a dream so they took a different route home to avoid tipping Herod off concerning our location. But it was no good. Herod rounded up some scholars and discovered the baby was born in Bethlehem. Herod just decided he'd kill all the babies born over a two year period to make sure he got the one the kings had come to worship.

VONTRICE: I remember reading about that in the Bible. It was a terrible slaughter of innocent babies.

JACK: Dreadful. Anyway Joe… we'll call him Joe Smith… got word to flee with Mary and the baby. So he packed us up in the middle of the night and we fled… let's say to an undisclosed hideout in Egypt where Herod had no power.

VONTRICE: That sounds very exciting. What happened next?

JACK: Can't go into the details. Things stayed pretty top secret for the next 30 years. I was assigned to train a new agent – my daughter – for a very important assignment involving the Messiah. (Twitches ears) I'm picking up an incoming message.

VONTRICE: I understand God created donkeys with big ears so they could hear well.

JACK: That's right. God made us donkeys with a number of terrific features. I think he really loved creating us. I gotta go. Bye.

VONTRICE: Folks. That was just part one of our exciting program. Stay tuned when Jack's daughter will tell us about her secret mission. (pause) Welcome back to our show – Animal World – where we interview animals from the Bible and find out their exciting stories. Our next guest is referred to as 008. Let's welcome her.

008: Hi, I'm double O eight and this is Double O Nine.
VONTRICE: Pleased to have you both on the show. I understand you are the daughter of and were trained by Jack, I mean 007?

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008: Yes. My father was an important agent. But because God created donkeys to live about 25-30 years he trained me for an important mission about 33 years after his.

VONTRICE I understand this mission had something to do with Zechariah 9 and The Coming of Zion's King.

008: Yes, my son, 009, has it memorized.

009: Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!
Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you,
righteous and having salvation,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

008: That was Messianic prophesy. God was letting people know how to recognize his son – the king and Messiah – when he arrived on earth. Historically, donkeys were a status symbol of their owners' wealth, rather like a Rolls Royce is today.

009: For example Judge Jair…

VONTRICE: Any relation to Judge Judy or Judge Joe Brown?

009: No, this was a judge from the Bible between the time of Joshua and Samson.

008: Judge Jair had thirty sons, who rode thirty donkeys.

009: Leader riding horses symbolized was and conquest.

008: But leaders riding donkeys symbolized peace.

009: Another judge, Abdon had forty sons and thirty grandsons, who rode on seventy donkeys. He led Israel eight years.

008: Donkeys were also connected with King Saul.

009: He was out looking for lost donkeys when Samuel told him he would be Israel's king.

VONTRICE: So what exactly was your mission? Or is it secret like your father's?

009: It wasn't a secret.

008: It is recorded in Matthew 21.

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009: It was Passover week, just before Jesus died for all the human beings on the earth.

008: Jesus sent two disciples into Jerusalem. He said…

009: Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, *(008 indicates she's that donkey)* with her colt *(009 indicates he's that donkey)* by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.

008: His disciples brought us to Jesus and placed cloaks on us like saddle blankets

009: Then Jesus sat on my mom.

008: A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

009: The crowds were shouting,
"Hosanna to the Son of David!"
"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
"Hosanna in the highest!"

VONTRICE: So that was Jesus triumphal entry.

008: Exactly. Just as Zechariah had prophesied, Jesus entered the city riding on the animal that signified peaceful Lordship.

009: I was honored to trot alongside mother as she carried him into the city.

VONTRICE: What lesson do you think our listeners should take away with them after hearing your story?

008: Always be ready to serve the Lord.

009: And take your children along with you so they can be a part of the Lord's work.

VONTRICE: I want to thank both of you for being on Animal World today. Listeners, stay tuned for further adventures in God's wonderful world of animals.

Check out these interactive Bible game

Biblical donkeys.
http://www.quia.com/ba/194987.html

Matthew 20 & 21 hangman
http://www.quia.com/hm/804085.html

Jesus is born battleship
http://www.quia.com/ba/216877.html

Jesus is Born Rags to Riches
http://www.quia.com/rr/388092.html

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