

**Palm Sunday**  
March 20, 2005  
**What Would the Stones Say?**

**Luke 19:28-40 (NKJV)**

When He had said this, He went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. [29] And it came to pass, when He came near to Bethphage and Bethany, at the mountain called Olivet, that He sent two of His disciples, [30] saying, "Go into the village opposite you, where as you enter you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Loose it and bring it here. [31] And if anyone asks you, 'Why are you loosing it?' thus you shall say to him, 'Because the Lord has need of it.' " [32] So those who were sent went their way and found it just as He had said to them. [33] But as they were loosing the colt, the owners of it said to them, "Why are you loosing the colt?" [34] And they said, "The Lord has need of him." [35] Then they brought him to Jesus. And they threw their own clothes on the colt, and they set Jesus on him. [36] And as He went, many spread their clothes on the road. [37] Then, as He was now drawing near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works they had seen, [38] saying: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" [39] And some of the Pharisees called to Him from the crowd, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." [40] But He answered and said to them, **"I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."**

Today is what we Christians call Palm Sunday. Today marks the beginning of the most holy week on the Christian calendar.

The last week of the life of Jesus as a man here on earth began with His Triumphal Entry into the City of Jerusalem. The event is recorded in all four of the Gospels.

**Matthew** tells about how the people spread their garments on the road and how others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

**John** tells about how the people took Palm branches and went forth to meet Jesus waving them and crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. The King of Israel!"

**Luke** takes the story a little further and tells us that there were some Pharisees in the crowd that told Jesus to rebuke His disciples for what they were doing but Jesus answered and said to them, **"I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out."**

**I have two questions about that statement. (1) Do You Think Those Stones Could Have Talked? And (2). What Could They Have Said?**

**The answer to the first Question is "Yes"**. Jesus would not have said that the stones would say something if it was impossible for them to do it. If God were to tell them to talk they could talk!

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**God caused a donkey to talk one time.**

That story is in the Bible. It's the story of Balaam. Balaam was a prophet and the king of Moab tried to hire him to prophesy against Israel. But as he was going with the Moabites God sent a donkey to block his path. The donkey saw the angel standing in the path with his sword drawn but Balaam didn't. When the donkey swerved to avoid the angel it made Balaam mad and he beat the donkey.

After this happened several times, the donkey started talking.

**Numbers 22:28 (NKJV)**

Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

God made that donkey talk!

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Another time God made a cloud talk. Actually, He did that twice; Once when Jesus was baptized, and once, on the Mount of Transfiguration.

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And of course a bush talked to Moses.

If God could make a donkey talk and a cloud talk and a bush talk, He could also make those stones talk! He was not being rhetorical when He said, "The stones would immediately cry out".

Now that we've established that the stones could have talked if God chose to make them talk, let's deal with question number two: What would they have said?

I don't know what they would have said but I can think of a few things they could have said.

**First, they could have talked about creation. After all, they were there!**

They would put an end to the debate between creationists and evolutionists. They would tell all the skeptics that the first two chapters of Genesis give an accurate account of creation. There was no big bang! God spoke and the world and everything in it, including man, was created by His word.

**Genesis 1:27 (NKJV)**

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

**The theory of evolution** is one of the greatest tools that Satan has ever come up with to undermine the church and destroy the credibility of the Bible.

If he can make you doubt the biblical account of creation, then he can make you doubt the rest of the Bible. If he can make you believe that you evolved from a protoplasmic blob by some freak accident of nature, then he can convince you that there is no real plan or purpose for your life.

**The idea of evolution did not originate with Charles Darwin. It originated with Satan!** Once you let evolution in, the credibility of the Bible is undermined. Not only that, but you are on a collision course with the teaching of Jesus Himself. He said.....

**Mark 10:6 (NKJV)**

But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female.'

Jesus endorsed the Biblical account of creation.

Those who believe in the theory of evolution tell us that it is a scientific fact. It is not! It is an unproven **hypothesis!**

The definition of **hypothesis** is....

“A proposition put forth as a basis for reasoning; a supposition formulated from proved data and presented as a temporary explanation of an occurrence, as in the sciences, in order to establish a basis for further research; a supposition; often, a mere assumption or guess.”

**The only thing we know for sure about the missing link is that it is still missing.** It takes more faith to believe in evolution that it does to believe in creation! You can make a monkey out of a man but you can't make a man out of a monkey!

**Paul spoke some very important words to Timothy when he said....**

**1 Tim. 6:20 (NKJV)**

O Timothy! Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions of what is falsely called knowledge—The KJV says....

**1 Tim. 6:20 (KJV)**

O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of **science** falsely so called:

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When Christ spoke to the churches in the Book of Revelation, He too a title for Himself that was suitable for each church. For instance, to the church at **Smyrna** He said, “These things says the First and Last, who was dead, and came to life.”

The **Smyrna Church** was the persecuted church. The Lord wanted to tell them something that would help them so He said, “The worst thing they can do is kill you.” But He said, “You don't have to worry about that because they killed me but I am alive! I was resurrected from death. And you will also be resurrected from the dead.”

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The last church listed in the Book of Revelation is the **Laodicean Church**. The Laodicean Church is symbolic of the church in our day; the church that is being undermined by the theory of evolution. It is interesting and significant that Jesus addressed this church this way....

**Rev. 3:14 (NKJV)**

"And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write,  
"These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the

**Beginning of the creation of God:**

In other words, Jesus said, "There's a false witness. His name is **Charles Darwin**. You can believe him if you want to. But there's a true witness. That true witness is Me. I was there! I am the One who created the heavens and the earth."

If those stones could talk, they would say, "The One riding on the donkey is the Creator!" They would point to Him as did His beloved disciple John and say, "All things were made by Him and without Him nothing was made that was made."

**Here's a little poem that tells it like it is.**

"We hear a lot today about evolution,  
How monkeys long ago were changed to men.  
The scientists have given this solution  
But none of them can say just how or when.

But I don't believe in evolution,  
That my ancestors lived up in a tree.  
The Bible says that God is my Father  
And that plenty good enough for me.

O glory hallelujah! My heart is filled with joy.  
I want you to know it one and all,  
That God is my creator, and I'm a baboon hater,  
And the monkey's no relation at all."

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**The next thing the stones could talk about is sin and sin's cure.**

**The stones that Jesus was referring to were located in Solomon's Temple.**

I know that Solomon's Temple was rebuilt by **Zerrubbabel** and restored by **Herod**. But when they rebuilt the Temple they used material that was

already there. They used the same stones that Solomon used. Those stones were witnesses to all the sacrifices that were made throughout the centuries. The understood how the sin question was dealt with.

Inside the Temple was the Ark of the Covenant. Inside the Ark of the Covenant were the Tables of Stone upon which were written the Ten Commandments.

The tables of stone were first **broken**. Then they were **boxed**. Then they were **blooded**. The sin question was dealt with in the Temple by the offering of countless numbers of animal sacrifices. The blood of those animals was poured over the Mercy Seat. The mercy seat covered the broken commandments.

When the Temple was dedicated, rivers of blood flowed. Solomon offered sacrifices of 22,000 bulls and 120,000 sheep. Can you imagine the incredible amount of blood that was shed on that one day alone?

Christ applied all of this to Himself when He said, “Behold, a greater than Solomon is here.”

**God was saying, “Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission of sin.” What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!**

If the stones would have cried out that day, they would have told the story of sin and its cure. They would have told that the only remedy for sin is the blood of an innocent substitute and Jesus Christ alone is the only substitute and cure for sin.

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**The third thing the stones would have said would have been about the severity of God’s judgment.**

Those stones heard the great sermons that were preached by the prophets warning the people that if they did not repent, God would pour out His judgment on the Temple and on the City of Jerusalem.

Listen to the words of the prophet.....

## **2 Kings 21:13-15 (NKJV)**

And I will stretch over Jerusalem the measuring line of Samaria and the plummet of the house of Ahab; I will wipe Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. [14] So I will forsake the remnant of My inheritance and deliver them into the hand of their enemies; and they shall become victims of plunder to all their enemies, [15] because they have done evil in My sight, and have provoked Me to anger since the day their fathers came out of Egypt, even to this day.' "

They had heard the great prophet Jeremiah when he said.....

## **Jeremiah 7:3-4 (NKJV)**

Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: "Amend your ways and your doings, and I will cause you to dwell in this place. [4] Do not trust in these lying words, saying, 'The temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord ....

The people of Israel were trusting in the Temple. They thought that because they had the Temple, they were exempt from having to obey God's word. They lived to see the judgment of the Lord come upon them. The Temple was destroyed. The city was destroyed and they were carried off into captivity. Those stones witnessed it! It was the judgment and severity of an angry God!

Those stones would have told the people in that crowd that day, "Unless you repent, God's judgment will come upon you. God has not changed! He must judge sin!"

## **Judgment came upon the people and the City of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.**

The Romans tore the Temple apart stone by stone. They plowed the city under and salted the ground. The forests that were around Jerusalem were destroyed because they cut down all the trees making crosses out of them. Jesus Christ is not only the Redeemer. He is also the Judge!

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**The stones would also say...."We know that we are not the true Temple of God and we never were."**

**Acts 17:24 (NKJV)**

God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.

**Jesus told the woman at the well....**

**John 4:21 (NKJV)**

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father.

The stones would say, "We know that we're not the real thing. We only represent the real thing. The thing we represent is the people of God."

**In the Old Testament God had a Temple for His people. In the New Testament God has a people for His Temple. Jesus said, "The true place of worship is coming. My church is coming!"**

**1 Peter 2:5 (NKJV)**

you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**1 Cor. 3:16 (NKJV)**

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**It's time for the church to recognize who we are in Christ Jesus! We are the Temple of God! Christ lives in us!**

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**Finally, One of the stones would say, I am the resurrection stone! I've been chosen to seal the entrance to Joseph of Arimathea's tomb when they put Jesus in it.**

He would say, "They are going to kill Jesus. He is going to be crucified on a cross. They are going to take His body down from the cross and put it in Joseph of Arimathea's tomb. They are going to roll me, the mighty stone that I am, to seal the entrance to that tomb in order to try to keep Jesus in it. But he will get out! And when I am rolled away from the entrance to that tomb,

it won't be to let Jesus out. It will be to show that He is already out! He will no longer be in that tomb!

The resurrection is the heart and soul of the gospel! If Jesus was not resurrected then our faith is in vain. We have no hope. Christianity is a farce.

**Paul put it this way....**

**1 Cor. 15:17-18 (NKJV)**

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!  
[18] Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

Our hope hinges on the truth of the resurrection. If He is not alive then there is no hope for you and me.

**But I want to tell you something. Christ is risen. He is alive!**

Not only did He beat the grave, but all those who believe in Him will also beat the grave! When Jesus returns He's going to ruin every cemetery in the country. Paul said....

**1 Thes. 4:13-17 (NKJV)**

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. [14] For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. [15] For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. [16] For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Folks, that's your future if you have received Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. He is coming again very soon. Because He lives we too shall live!

**Those stones could have said a lot!** Their main message to us today would be.... "Get your house in order. Get ready to meet the Lord. He's coming soon!"

Are you ready? If Jesus would return today, would you be ready?

Give invitation!