

New Creation Realities

March 2013

The STONES Were Silent

And he answered and said unto them, I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out.

Luke 19:40

Big carnival. Bright, sunny day. Sat on a donkey, the Lord, His entourage rolling into Jerusalem. His 12 disciples and other well-wishers were “loving it”, praising God, dancing, shouting, laying down their clothes and palm fronds, and other precious things in His honor. Today, they would have used a lot of decorations, confetti, balloons and ribbons, fireworks and “bangers”.

They must have made quite a ruckus because some of the Pharisees approached Him, wanting Him to curb the whole thing, telling Him to tell His followers to tone it down. In response to that, He made this earth-shaking statement, the ultimate compliment payable to the integrity of God’s Word:

“I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out”. (KJV)

Did you notice that He qualified the speed with which this would happen, if it did happen? IMMEDIATELY.

What did He mean by that? Why did He say it? Was he saying, like some people have said, that if people don’t praise God, the stones will rise up and praise Him? I don’t believe that that is the reason why He said that.

We find the answer quickly in John’s account of the story. John 12: 14, 15. The NIV:

“Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written,
“Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.””

Do you get the picture now? The most important part of that passage is, **"It is written"**.

People act as if He does not mean what His Word says, as if He was dozing when He "dictated" the Bible. If it is written, it will come to pass. We can trust it.

The whole carnival, that whole ride into Jerusalem had been written, prophesied by Zechariah many years before and the Lord was fulfilling what the Scripture said would happen.

Zechariah 9:9 is where it was "written". The NIV:

"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."

That is why the people were dancing and shouting and praising God. They were **rejoicing greatly**, and fulfilling Scripture without knowing it.

It is written.

It is written. If it is written, it **cannot** fail. If it is written, it must come to pass.

That is why the Lord said what He said. If by any(ANY!!) chance, the people decided to stop "rejoicing", the stones will **"immediately cry out"**. They will start to rejoice.

Why "immediately"? Because God's Word will come to pass, and cannot fail.

If the stones don't, the donkey would. If not the donkey, the air would. If not the air, the sand would. If not the sand, the trees and leaves will.

No, the Lord was not concerned about stones praising Him. He was just saying that the Word of God can't fail and will always come to pass.

And there was no way that the people would stop praising God on His way into Jerusalem.

The lesson for us is: the Word does not fail.

Sometimes, we act as if God does not mean the things He has said in His Word. We act as if He was dozing when He was "dictating" the Bible. We try to explain what we think He meant.

You can trust God's Word. He has laid Himself, His integrity, His power on His Word. When He made a covenant with Abraham, He actually swore by Himself, to assure Abraham that He was bound to do what He had promised!

This is the basis of faith and prayer. This is the

reason we can pray and expect answers.

Some folks believe that God is **able**. They believe that God **can** heal sickness. They believe that He **can** answer their prayers.

But they don't believe that He **will**. Yet, to receive from Him, it is essential to believe that He **will**. God will do what He promised.

But the real truth is that in Christ Jesus, He **has**. He's done and provided everything we need.

In the finished work of our Lord Jesus, we are **guaranteed** every blessing. The Bible says that we are complete in Him, and that in Him, all the fullness of God dwells. In other words, everything God is (in) Him – and we are in Him.

In Mark 11: 24, the Lord Jesus said, **"What things so ever ye desire when ye pray, believe that ye receive them and you shall have them"**.

I have friends who read that and say, "No, God will give it to you if He thinks you need it", or, "God can say, "Yes", or He can say, "No", or He can say, "Wait"". But is that what the Scripture says? No. In fact, you cannot find ANY Scripture that says that or that remotely supports that.

People who talk like that really don't believe the Word, and are afraid to. They are afraid because they think if they do, they will be disappointed. They think that God won't do what He promised.

My reaction to that is, "I don't believe God is timid or afraid to say exactly what He wants to say. He says exactly what He means to say. Why are you saying what He has not said? If He wanted to say that, He would have said it."

Scripture is clear enough. When I pray for something I desire, if I believe that I receive that thing, **I am guaranteed** to have it. Why is that not simple enough for us to understand?

"God can say, "Yes", or He can say, "No", or He can say, "Wait"".

In fact, you cannot find ANY Scripture that says this or that remotely supports this.

We need to borrow Abraham's attitude. In **Romans 4**, we are told that he was strong in faith, and became fully persuaded that what God promised He would do. That means we can also come to the place of being "fully persuaded", of trust and faith in the Word.

If it is written, if He said it, it will come to pass. You can trust it. You can act on it.

Amen.

When You Pray

What can be more rational and what can be more safe and certain than faith? Faith is to receive the written promise of God as His direct message to us. His promise means the same as if He appeared and said to us, "I have heard your prayer."

In Mark 11:24, Jesus tells us exactly how to appropriate any of the blessings purchased for us by His death. Having promised all we need, He says, "What things so ever ye desire, *when ye pray*."

This does not mean after you pray for twenty years. It is not after you get well, but while you are sick. *"When ye pray*, believe that ye receive them, and ye *shall* have them."



The condition of receiving what we ask from God is to believe that He answers when we pray.

When you pray for healing, He authorizes you to consider your prayer answered. It is the same as when He stood at the grave of Lazarus and said, "I thank thee, Father, that thou *hast* heard me," before He saw Lazarus come forth from the grave. When we ask for healing, Christ bids us say, with faith, "I thank Thee, Father, that Thou *hast* heard me," before we have yet seen the answer to our prayer.

Faith is when God's Word alone is our reason for believing that our prayer is answered, before we see or feel.

F.F. Bosworth
"Christ the Healer"

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*A teaching ministry to the Body of Christ
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the Lord cometh!