

If Stones Could Sing

Luke: All Things New



Series Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Luke 19:28-40



Big Idea

Jesus enters Jerusalem riding on the colt of a donkey. He is presenting Himself and is even momentarily received by the people as King. But it will not last. Ours is a fickle faith, a petty praise. But He is not done with us. Just as the stones in creation and in the temple will sing out in adoration, so too the Savior is able to soften our stone hearts set them to song. Oh Jesus let it be so!

(1) The Royal Treatment

Detail #1: The Spreading of Cloaks—There is more here than just testimony to His celebrity. Such actions actually speak to something of His royalty (cf. 2 Kings 9:13).

Detail #2: The Colt of Donkey—Many streams of OT imagery and prophecy are converging in this single detail to show that Jesus is the Christ, the promised King (cf. Zech 9:9; Gen 49:10-11).

Detail #3: The Pilgrim's Blessing—These disciples add a not-so-subtle twist to the original benediction (Psa 118:26). And with that they radically transform the meaning and significance of all of this. This is not just another pilgrim entering Jerusalem here. This is *the* Pilgrim—the coming One they've all been waiting for.

(2) Fair-Weather Fans

In Luke 19, Jesus really seems like a great guy to get behind, right? He's healing the blind, raising the dead, outsmarting those smug religious leaders, and so forth. We love it. "Of course I'll cast my vote for Jesus. Jesus for King!" But, in Luke 22, when they've got Him tied up in chains and He's looking all pathetic, who gets your vote then?! It's so easy to spread our cloak out on the ground before Jesus when we're thinking He's going to deliver on what we want for our life. We have our ideas and He's going to make it happen. But then He doesn't. And you want to pick back up your cloak, dust it off, put it on, and go find some other king—a king who will actually deliver.

(3) Peace in Heaven

Since as far back as Adam, heaven and earth have been at odds. Sin has fractured the relationship and put God and man at loggerheads. But Jesus, fully God and fully man, steps in to mediate, to reconcile. He will offer from sinful man's side what justice and holiness demands from God's side. He will Himself become the sacrifice due God for our sin and in so doing He will build a bridge of peace between God and man, a way of merger between heaven and earth (cf. Col 1:15-20).

(4) Singing Stones

Meaning #1: Stones in the Created World—Creation sees what God is doing and praises Him for it. And Paul reminds us in Rom 8, it's not just because creation delights in seeing God on the move. It's because creation has skin in the game. Paul says creation too is groaning, longing for release and redemption as we are—and its fate is tied to ours.

Meaning #2: Stones in the Temple Structure—It is not just the heavens that are declaring the glory of Jesus but all the types and shadows of the OT are as well.

Reflection Questions



- Is your cloak spread out on the ground before Jesus? In what ways have you been tempted lately to pick it back up again and go looking for some other king? Are you more of a fair-weather or diehard saint?
- Read Col 1:15-23. What stands out to you here? What is there to sing about?
- In Ezek 36:25-28, why would God describe our hearts as stone? In what ways have you seen this to be true in your own life? Would you say that God has given you a "new heart" in Jesus (v. 26)? Why? What changed?