

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

April 21

2024

If Stones Could Talk...

The Scriptures inform us numerous times about stones being in the presence of Jesus as He walked the earth in the first century. Now, we all recognize that stones can not talk, but I suggest to you that if stones could talk...

They Could Declare Jesus Being Tempted In The Wilderness By The Devil.

In Matthew 4:1-3, and in Luke 4:1-3, we learn about Jesus being led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. We learn that Jesus had fasted forty days and nights and was hungry, and we learn about the devil coming to Him saying, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.” Therefore, if stones could talk, they could declare the devil tempting Jesus in the wilderness.

They Could Declare Jesus Foretelling About The Destruction of The Temple.

In Luke 21:5-6, it is recorded, “Then, as some spoke of the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and donations, He said, (i.e. Jesus) These things which you see-the days will come in which not one stone shall be left upon another that shall not be thrown down.” Therefore, if stones could talk, they could declare Jesus foretelling about the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem.

They Could Declare The Divine Power of Jesus.

In John 2:6-10, we learn about Jesus commanding that six waterpots of stone be filled to the brim with water, which He then turns into wine. This sign performed by Jesus demonstrated His Divine power, it manifested His glory, and it caused His disciples to believe in Him (John 2:11). The Divine power of Jesus is also demonstrated in the raising of Lazarus from the dead, which by the way was done in the presence of a stone (John 11:38-44). Therefore, if stones could talk, they could declare the Divine power of Jesus.

They Could Declare The Jews Being Angry With Jesus.

In John 8:59, and in John 10:31-32, we learn about the Jews taking up stones in an attempt to stone Jesus. They did this out of rage and anger concerning the things that Jesus was declaring to them. They did not believe what Jesus was telling them, so they accused Him of blasphemy, and they sought to stone Him (John 10:33). Therefore, if stones could talk, they could declare the Jews being angry with Jesus.

They Could Declare The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

In Mark 15:45-46, we learn about the body of Jesus being laid in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and about a stone being rolled against the door of the tomb. We go on to learn in Mark 16:1-10, about Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome going very early on the first day of the week to the tomb to anoint the body of Jesus with spices, and they said among themselves “who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us” (v.3). However, when they got to the tomb they saw that the stone had been rolled away, and they then learned about Jesus being risen from the dead. Therefore, if stones could talk, they could declare the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

My friend, if stones could talk, they could declare many things about Jesus, the Christ!

✍️ Brad Phillips

The Lord's Supper

“This do in Remembrance of Me.” On the same night of His betrayal, Jesus, while eating the Passover with His chosen disciples, instituted the Lord's Supper when He took the unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine, gave thanks for them, gave to His disciples, and said, “this do in remembrance of Me” (1 Cor. 11:23-25).

Friend, eating the Lord's Supper is not for the remission of sins, and it is not the most important part of worship. For, all worship Divinely authorized is equally important, and the eating of the Lord's Supper is in order to remember the death of Christ.

In 1 Corinthians 11:24-25, Paul quotes Jesus, saying, “Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.” Likewise, “This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Before eating the Lord's Supper, each one should examine himself, and having done so, eat and drink (1 Cor. 11:28). How wonderful it is that the Lord established this memorial for the benefit of His saints, and in eating and drinking of it, we show His death till He comes (1 Cor. 11:26).

Here are seven things to remember during the Lord's Supper from these gospel accounts (Matt. 27:32-44; Mark 15:23-32; Luke 23:33-43; John 19:17-30). One Lord, two thieves, three crosses, four soldiers divide the garments of Christ, five wounds of Christ (i.e. head, back, hands, feet, side), darkness from the sixth to the ninth hour, and the seven sayings of Christ on the cross (i.e. Father forgive them for they know not what they do; today you will be with Me in paradise; woman behold your son and behold your mother; My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me; I thirst; It is finished; Father, into Thy hands I commit My spirit).

Keep these things in mind, till He comes (1 Cor. 11:26).

✍ Thornton Thomas

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)

Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)

Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)

Confess Jesus Christ. (Romans 10:9-10)

Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)

Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek” (Romans 1:16).

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

Brad Phillips (765) 720-2816