

PALM SUNDAY..Luke 19:40

We have come again to Palm Sunday. It might be called Victory Sunday. Jesus had been in those parts for more than thirty years teaching a group of men about the Kingdom. He had been worshipped, scorned, rejected, and followed.

I said this Sunday might be called Victory Sunday and yet it might as well be termed a Sunday of defeat. The victory picture of it would be for the following reasons:

1. He rode into the city in the midst of shouts, and songs and the spreading of palms and garments in His pathway.
2. It was victory in that His enemies did not stop Him
- 3/ It was victory in that He reached the Temple.
4. It was victory in the minds of people who thought He would set up His Kingdom as an earthly affair.

Yet it was a Sunday of defeat in that He looked upon a city that had failed to come to Him when He had desired to gather it to Him as the hen gathers her chickens under her wing.

It was a day of defeat in that He knew that He was not riding in to set up an earthly Kingdom as His friends thought.

Although the multitudes shouted on His entry He knew that what was termed a triumphal Entry was only a journey to look up on a city where soon He would die.

Some estimate that there were two million people there that day. Now if you could have molded all the multitude together into one human being and then could properly diagnose that man you would find that he had in him and eating cancer. When the popularity of Jesus was seen His enemies began to throw monkey wrenches in to the machinery. These enemies went to Jesus and said, "Make your followers be quiet."

So this triumphant march had in it the seed of crucifixion. One seed was the desire that an earthly Kingdom when set up would give political or material benefits to certain persons. When it <sup>was</sup> known that it was not to be that sort of

of thing many perhaps that had been shouting hosana joined later in the expression, "Crucify Him," when it was seen that their ambitions were not coming to pass.

That very thing has been true all down through the ages. Let the church as whole or even a loacal church begin to march and that march does not bring to certain parties the popularity ~~thwarting~~ and material gain that they expected out of by joining in the march the monkey wrenches begin to fly.

"Make your followers hush up Jesus you are getting too popular." Jesus knew that along with the seekesr for self advancement there were those who were sincere in building a Kingdom to conquer sin and He said, "If these children did not express themselves the very stones would cry out."

The march into Jerusalem was short journey and to an unfreindly city. But overcoming the mean, selfish, materialistic hypocritical attitude of the devil led people in His death He arose from the tomb to begin His triumphal march to the New Jerusalem. And since the voices of His true followers are being muffled by the devil's hosts the stones to day are crying out for Jesus.

In animate objects you say can not speak..they have been speaking from the time that a message came from a burning bush to Moses. In Habakkuk 2:11 we read, "For the stone shall cry out of the wall and the beam out of the timber shall answer back."

If all of us should cease to cry out for Jesus in this church every brick in this church would continue to cry its hosana in the march of Jesus to the New Jerusalem. The stones in the hospitals, Christian Colleges, Orphan asylums, Mercy homes, and all benevolent institutions would contine to cry out "Blessed is the King that cometh in the name of the Lord."

When Jesus spake these words all of the human race that has been born in the last nineteen hundred years, so far as our bodies are concerned were minerals and chemicals at that time. Thoese minerals and chemicals have been alchemised in to human flesh in the fact of human beings with tongues to proclaim His blessed name to all parts of the globe. Yes what was stone and dirt in those days has risen in flesh to preach His conquering Gospel.

The march that I am interested in to day is His march into human hearts. He marched into Jerusalem. He looked around...He still had in His eyes the tears that were drawn from His precious body by the sin and indifference of the people of that wicked city. He was in the city but He was looking at the confines in which He would die. Has He marched into your life? If so as He stands there in your heart and looks around is He looking at a heart and life in which He will die?

It has cost Him something to come into your life. It has cost Him mistreatment, it has cost Him Gethsemane, it has cost Him tears, and blood. As He comes into your heart with tears still in His eyes and blood upon His brow brought there by sin and looks in loving solicitude for your your souls salvation...I ask you is He looking at a life in which He shall die?

You can grow the things right there in your heart that will kill Him in your life.

Disloyalty to His church in not showing interest enough even to attend it.

Indifference to His world program that will literally starve it to death.

Intemperance in satisfying your sensual appetites till you destroy the usefulness of your body to the point that it has no physical strength to carry on the vigorous work necessary to carry it on.

Just the plain old sin of selfishness that raised its head on Palm Sunday as a means to make Him die.

HAS HE MARCHED INTO YOUR HEART? WILL YOU KILL HIM THERE?

Is it a VICTORY SUNDAY FOR HIM IN YOUR HEART TO DAY OR IS IT A DAY OF DEFEAT? YOU HAVE THE ANSWER.

