



SEEKING GOD

...for Christ to visit
our communities

The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone...

Psalm 118.22

We confess that we have pursued great projects, attempting grand plans which leave little place for Jesus. Like derelict buildings, abandoned though only partly complete, many of our greatest ambitions lie empty and unfinished. Endeavors which once aroused passion have slowly fizzled. We have become skeptics, quietly dismissing Your kingdom promises as impossible utopian fantasies.

And so it was on Palm Sunday. The people had almost given up. The best thing many could imagine was a regime change. How You surprised them. You did not repair the old or defend what had been downtrodden. You exalted the One who had been dismissed. The One who had been rejected, denied and overlooked – this is the One You brought back and put on display.

Some still refused Him, but no one ignored Him. And so we pray for our community. Bring a day when every eye beholds Him, even those who have overlooked or opposed Him.

The LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hosanna [literally: O LORD, save us]!

O LORD, push things forward to finish...

Psalm 118:23-25

Suddenly it was clear that as Jesus came, God Almighty was visiting with transforming power. It seemed that all of heaven was near enough to touch. They saw that they could be saved in ways they hadn't ever thought possible before. They could see You advancing Your purpose so that the finest glories of Your

character would flourish in families and communities everywhere. Open our eyes to see Jesus coming to our city. Save us more than we've ever been saved.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD...

The LORD is God, and He has given us light.

With boughs in hand, join in the festal procession...

Psalm 118.26-27 (Translation: Hawthorne)

Lord God, give us light. Make Jesus marvelous in our eyes. Make us steady in hope and eager in expectancy. Palm Sunday stands as a fact behind us, but it will ever loom large and beautiful before us as a promise of Your coming. As sure as there were branches in the air and coats on the ground, that's how sure we can be that someday God will exalt Jesus in the view of all.

When He came near...the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus,

“Teacher, rebuke Your disciples!”

“I tell you, “He replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”

Luke 19:37-40 (NIV)

As we celebrate Your coming to Jerusalem, our hearts surge forward in hope that You will soon visit our city – and many others – to bring about a great awakening to Your Lordship. Ultimately You will be loved by many, even in the midst of bitter hatred by those who have long opposed You. May the rocks keep silent before the escalating sound of welcoming worship. May our children be the first to know and honor You. May millions submit their lives to You and be saved. Let the peace be as great as Your glory. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

Seek God on behalf of the coming generation

That people who are now small children will become passionate followers of Christ; that they will finish evangelizing the world; that they will overcome evil and bring forth the promised blessing of God upon all peoples; that they will give Christ the finest whole-life worship of all history.

How often I wanted to gather your children together the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings... You will not see Me until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 23:37-39

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