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## Msg #1430 Take Away the Stone

## What The Bible Says Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1430 Take Away the StoneWhat The Bible Says Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice When Jesus came to the tomb of Lazarus, where his claim of being the resurrection and the life would first be substantiated, and the glory of the Christ would once more be revealed, Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Believers know he could have levitated the stone away or spoken the word and dissolved it into sand or less. It is oft found in life that before the glory of the Christ can be revealed there is something man must do. Abraham cleaved his own covenant signifying sacrifices (Gen 15); Isaac dug his wells; Jacob stacked his pillars of stones; Sampson searched out a jaw bone; Samuel stacked his own 12 stones, as did Elijah; David used his own wit at Engedi; the stone needed remove from the tomb, before the glory of God would be revealed. Martha was told what was to happen but could not believe it, the crowd had no idea but each had to incorporate obedience to Jesus before they could see the Christ. Perhaps the stone on your your tomb is confusion or complacency. We may sing the lyrics "Trust and obey, for there is no other way," and little comprehend that truth. Perhaps a stone of covetousness or conceit is keeping that decaying carcass in a tomb. Perhaps a stone of contention, or contrariness blocks the glory of Christ from being revealed. Some tombs still hold the dead because of compromise or coldness. There was a stone on Lazarus' tomb and Jesus asked those present to remove it before he prayed to his Father and called out Lazarus. We needn't get a candle to search out leaven, nor a kerchief to get a moat out of an eye, when stones over tombs are in plain view. The Resurrection-and-Life said, "Take away the stone." An Essay for week #30 07/27/2014In paperback at www.lulu.com/spotlight/GSBaptistChurch Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140727.mp3

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