

Main Part of the Plan!

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Easter

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[1 Corinthians 15:3 Jesus died for our sins and rose for our salvation; vs5-8 Jesus meets with Mary, other women, Cephas, the twelve disciples, 500 brethren, James, and the apostle Paul; vs14 if Jesus has not risen our faith is vain; vs20 Jesus has risen;

John 5:23 Honor God; honor the Son; John 14:18 I will not leave you; vs39 Scripture testifies about Jesus; John 12:46 I am come a light into the world; Acts 1:8 Power will come on you; vs9 taken up and into a cloud.]

Our Easter hymn this morning was a reminder that the resurrection of the Lord Jesus is a true fact—and we base every promise of God and every answer to prayer on the validity of that promise.

#164 “I know that my Redeemer liveth, And on the earth again shall stand; I know eternal life He giveth, That grace and power are in His hand.”

The apostle told the brethren AV 1 Corinthians 15:3 “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”

That statement was the focus of everything the apostle said and did—the resurrection of His Lord and Savior had an immense impact on his life from that time.

He went on to say vs14 if “Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also

vain.” We absolutely want the teaching we accept to be the true gospel of the Lord Jesus.

WEY 1 Corinthians 15:19 “If in this present life we have a **hope* resting on Christ, and nothing more, we are more to be pitied than all the rest of the world.*”

20 But, in reality, Christ **has* risen from among the dead, being the first to do so of those who are asleep.”*

That is the main issue facing the entire world—everyone is lost for an eternity if “Christ be not risen.”

When Jesus WEY Mark 15:37 “Yielded up His spirit”—the 38 “curtain in the Sanctuary was torn in two, from top to bottom.” Some faithful saints came from their graves and were walking in Jerusalem.

Amazement struck many—realizing now that Jesus was the Son of God; that He was born to die for the sins of the world; that He had been falsely accused and wrongly crucified as foretold in the Scriptures.

Jesus was placed in a tomb after paying for the sins of the world. The Father sends an angel to stand in an empty tomb.

There is no doubt that our Redeemer liveth! He conquered death for all who will believe Him and trust in His atoning Blood for the saving of their soul. Jesus showed us the depth of His love on the Cross—that same unselfish love we are to show to others.

Jesus meets Mary at the tomb after appearing to the other women. AV 1 Corinthians 15:5 “[Jesus] was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.”

All of them talked and walked with the risen Savior. They now should be faithful to trust Him until their last breath. None would have any excuse to live any other life.

This salvation plan was not a secret but had been proclaimed publicly for the world to see and believe and be able to escape the divine wrath to come.

Jesus instructs His disciples—AV Acts 1:8 “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

The Lord cares for the world and sends the Comforter to be with us and with everyone else on earth. He promises to never leave us and to never forsake us.

Although the devil has us feel alone at times, we are never alone—His Spirit is always with us and in us. AV John 14:18 “I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”

Even though Jesus gives these promises, many forget and walk away from the path of faith and trust in Him.

The Messiah had come to visit His people—and many Jews saw Him; spoke with Him; listened to His teaching; and watched Him perform miracles.

Those who believed Him, saw Him after He arose. Now they know that all He said is true so there is no turning away from a life faith that He called them to live.

His message is to Follow Him in faith, in love, humility, and always in daily trust on God the Father.

After His atoning work was finished, Jesus ascends into Heaven while a faithful group look on in amazement! Jesus tells them of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

AV Acts 1:9 “*And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.*”

Two men in white comment 11 “*Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.*”

Jesus finished His work of atonement on earth and went back to Heaven. He did all that the Father wanted Him to do—He gave His life and shed His Blood for the world.

Every sin ever committed has now been paid for in full. Time will tell what the world does with *that* information—and now we know that most will ignore, doubt, and reject what He did for them.

Nevertheless, the only thing needed to be right with God is a choice on our part to believe in the One He sent, and then to *trust* in His Atonement sacrifice for all concerns of life. It is the one requirement of God so we can enter His eternal kingdom **John 6:29**.

Now that Jesus has returned to Heaven, we all have a choice to *believe* and *accept* the gift He offers—His Spirit within to *guide* us, *provide* for us, and *direct* us to His kingdom.

The power of God is available to the believer through the atoning sacrifice of the Savior.

We now have the option to put our faith in the resurrection power of God—because we *believe* what that Atonement for sin *accomplished* for us.

Or we can use our power of choice to put our faith in what the world does—drugs, medical treatments, and the armed forces.

Only one choice leads to eternal life—trust on the *power* of God by *faith* in the Blood of Jesus.

The Lord told us that if we are troubled AV **John 14:1**—“*believe in God, believe also in me.*” To *believe* God is to *trust* His resurrection power through the Blood—to *heal* our body; *provide* daily needs; to *protect* our family; and to *prepare* us for His kingdom.

The Holy Spirit inspires faith in us to trust on the resurrection power of God for those things—including inner peace, avenging wrongs, and all other faith issues—without trusting on anything *else* or any other *plan*.

When we accept Christ as our Savior, and we believe on the divine power in back of His name, we become a child of God.

AV **John 1:12** “*As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on [trust in WEY] his name.*”

When God answers prayer for healing, money, protection, spiritual light, or for anything else, all the glory goes to Him.

When Jesus healed a man on the Sabbath, some were offended. If they had *believed* Christ they would have *glorified* God. NKJV **John 5:23** “*He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.*”

The *Word of God* was not *in* them, so the *Spirit of God* could not *inspire* them to glorify God.

Jesus said WEY **John 5:37-38** “*None of you have ever either heard His voice or seen what He is like. Nor have you His word dwelling within you, for you refuse to believe Him whom He has sent.*”

Being Enlightened to believe *in* and trust *on* the resurrection power of God is a salvation issue.

Jesus told them to AV **John 5:39** “*Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.*”

Like NKJV **1 Corinthians 15:4** “*He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.*”

To *believe* that He rose to life on the third day is to *trust* in faith on His resurrection power.

NKJV **John 3:18** “*He who believes [trusts WEY] in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*”

We must be *enlightened* and *inspired* to *understand* and *believe* what God’s power will do for those who trust Him in faith.

AV **John 12:46** “*I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*”

No one is forced to *remain* in spiritual darkness—anyone *can* be enlightened to know how important it is to *believe*; to *commit* their life to God; to *accept* His personal training program of spiritual faith lessons; and to *remain* in that position of trust until He returns.

Knowing and believing that Jesus is risen **Matthew 28:6** is the living hope we *have* of entering a Paradise kingdom!



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