

# HOW EASTER TURNED DEATH INTO LIFE

## Easter Sunday

April 17, 2022

Pastor Brian

## HOW DEATH ENTERED OUR WORLD

*“When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam’s sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.” (Romans 5:12, NLT)*

### Genesis 3:1–19 (NLT)

*The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”<sup>2</sup> “Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied.<sup>3</sup> “It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, **you will die.**’”*

*<sup>4</sup> “You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman.<sup>5</sup> “God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”*

*<sup>6</sup> The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.<sup>7</sup> At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly **felt shame** at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.*

*<sup>8</sup> When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees.<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”*

*<sup>10</sup> He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. **I was afraid** because I was naked.”*

*<sup>11</sup> “Who told you that you were naked?” the LORD God asked. “Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?”*

*<sup>12</sup> The man replied, “**It was the woman** you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it.”*

*<sup>13</sup> Then the LORD God asked the woman, “What have you done?”*

*“The serpent deceived me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.”*

*<sup>14</sup> Then the LORD God said to the **serpent**, “Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live.<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. **He will [crush] your head, and you will strike his heel.**”*

*<sup>16</sup> Then he said to the **woman**, “I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy, and in pain you will give birth. And **you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.**”*

*<sup>17</sup> And to the **man** he said, “Since you listened to your wife and ate from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat, **the ground is cursed** because of you. **All your life you will struggle** to scratch a living from it.<sup>18</sup> It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains.<sup>19</sup> By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and **to dust you will return.**”*

## THE FIVE D.E.A.T.H.S OF SIN

## **DISEASE**

*...until you return to the ground...*

*“**These earthly bodies make us groan and sigh**...We want to slip into our new bodies so that these dying bodies will, as it were, be swallowed up...” (2 Corinthians 5:4, The Living Bible)*

## **ENMITY**

*...you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you...*

*“I see that you are **full of [enmity] and are a prisoner of sin**.” (Acts 8:23, GNB)*

## **ANXIETY**

*So they hid...*

*“All who do evil hate the light and refuse to go near it **for fear their sins will be exposed**.” (John 3:20, NLT)*

## **TRIALS**

*All your life you will struggle...*

*“How frail is humanity! How short is life, **how full of trouble!**” (Job 14:1, NLT)*

## **HELL**

*...to dust you will return.*

*“I saw the dead, both great and small, standing before God’s throne. And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books. The sea gave up its dead, and death and the grave gave up their dead. And all were judged according to their deeds. Then death and the grave were thrown into the lake of fire. This lake of fire is **the second death**. And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire.” (Revelation 20:12–15, NLT)*

## **EASTER TURNED DEATH INTO L.I.F.E.**

*“God raised [Jesus] **from death to life** and destroyed the pains of death, because death had no power to hold him.” (Acts 2:24, GW)*

*“He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.”  
(Romans 4:25, NIV)*

## **THE FOUR GIFTS OF L.I.F.E.**

*“Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord...now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death.” (Romans 7:24–8:2, NLT)*

**L**OVE that changes me!

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16, NIV)*

**I**DENTITY that directs me.

*“Christ’s life showed me how [to live] and enabled me to do it. I identified myself completely with him. Indeed, I have been crucified with Christ...Christ lives in me. The life you see me living is not “mine,” but it is lived by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.” (Galatians 2:20, The Message)*

**F**AITH that carries me.

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.” (Hebrews 12:1, NLT)*

**E**TERNAL security that is promised me.

*“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.” (John 5:24, NIV)*

*“God raised us from death to life with Christ Jesus, and he has given us a place beside Christ in heaven.” (Ephesians 2:6, CEV)*

### **ACTION STEPS**

Receive eternal life.

Get baptized.

Take First Base.