

Resurrection Sunday 2025

Jesus

I. Darkness

Romans 6:23 For the **wages of sin is death...**

- **Sin:** Missing the mark. Anything other than perfect will of God

The first sin brought death to all men...

Genesis 2:17 [God's only command] ...the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**"

Die: heb. *mooth*. Jewish thought: Separation

- **Original Sin:** Adam/Eve tempted by Satan rebel against command of God
- **Consequence:** Separation from God. *Adam, where are you?* Shame/Guilt
- **Temporary fix:** God covers the nakedness of their sin...

Genesis 3:21 ...for Adam and his wife the Lord **God made tunics of skin**, and clothed them.

- Animal slain/Sin covered/Not taken away

Since Adam all men are born sinners. We are not good/don't want to be good
We're not sinners because we sin...We sin because we're sinners. Not you?

James 2:10 ...whoever shall keep the whole law yet stumble in **one point** he is guilty of **all**.

Galatians 5:19 ...the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things **will not inherit the kingdom of God.** IOWs all of us need forgiveness

Hebrews 9:22b ...**without shedding of blood** there is no forgiveness.

Scarlet Thread of Blood

- God killed the animal to clothe A and E/first death
- Only Abels blood sacrifice was accepted
- Death Angel passed over the blood on the doors
- All Animal Blood sacrifices offered by Israel for sin

Sin brought death/Separation from God
Blood of Animal Sacrifices: Temporary covering for sin/judgment

Hebrews 10:3 But in those sacrifices there is a **reminder of sins** every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could **take away sins**. 5 Therefore, when Jesus came into the world, He said: "Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, But a body You have prepared for Me. 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You had no pleasure. 7 Then I said, 'Behold, I have come— In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God.'

To actually *take away death*...you must first *take away sin*

John 1:29b ..."Behold! The Lamb of God who **takes away the sin of the world!**

All past OT sacrifices anticipated the perfect sacrifice
The Word became flesh and dwelt with man

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness rather than light**, because their deeds were evil.

Man's Hatred of God/Goodness was on full display at the Crucifixion

John 2:4 My hour has not yet come.

John 7:30 His hour had not yet come.

- Tonight, Passover **Jesus hour has come...**

John 13:1 [Washing of the feet] Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that **His hour had come** that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, **He loved them to the end.**

John 13:30 ... [Judas receives bread] then went out immediately. **And it was night.**

- **Same night:** Prays in the garden...

John 12:27 "Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name." [Not My will but Yours]

- **Same night:** Leaders come w/torches, swords and clubs

Luke 22: 53 When I was with you daily in the temple, you did not try to seize Me. But **this is your hour, and the power of darkness."**

- **Same night:** Abandoned by closest friends...

John 16:32 ...the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that **you will be scattered**, each to his own, and will **leave Me alone.**

- **Same night/all night...**Beat Him/Flogged Him/Mocked Him
- Carries His own cross to the hill of Calvary
- Stripped of clothes/laid on x-beam/ Nails hammered through wrists/into timber
- Cross dropped in a hole/Bones now out of joint/Back torn on the rough wood

Seven sayings of Jesus from the Cross

1. **To His enemies:** Father, forgive them... for they do not know what they do.
2. **To the repentant thief:** Today you will be with Me in Paradise.
3. **To Mary and John.** Woman behold your son! ... John, behold your mother!
4. **To God His Father:** My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?
5. **To anyone:** I thirst
6. **To everyone:** It is finished
7. ...

Luke 23:44 Now it was about the sixth hour, and there was **darkness over all the earth** until the ninth hour. 45 Then the **sun was darkened**, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. 46 And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, **"Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit.'"** Having said this, He breathed His last.

Darkness now covers all the Earth...The Son of God is Dead/Buried.

II. Light

- Three days pass. It is morning. It is Sunday.
- Angel descends from heaven/rolls away the grave stone/sits on it
 1. Angel's appearance like "lightning"
 2. Soldiers guarding tomb became "like dead men"
- Very Early...
 1. Still dark/New day dawning. Several women head to gravesite
 2. **Focus is on 3...**
 - **Mary Magdalene** whom Jesus had cast out 7 demons
 - **Salome'**
 - **Mary Mother of James**
 3. Women come w/spices discussing "who will roll away the stone?"
 4. Almost falling/Feel under their feet a **Great Earthquake**
- They see the angel still sitting on the stone with a **"face that shone like lightning"**
- **Angel to the 3 ladies...**
 1. "Don't be afraid...I know who you are looking for"
 2. "He is not here... He has risen"
 3. "Go quickly and tell the disciples Jesus is on His way to Galilee"
- **Mary Magdalene outside the tomb crying**
 1. She is crying stoops down/Looks in the tomb
 2. Sees 2 angels looking like young men sitting on the empty slab
 3. One at the head/one at the foot of where Jesus was laid
 4. The other 2 ladies bow down to the angels clothed in dazzling white robes.
 5. **Both angels ask to Mary**
 - "Why are you crying?"
 - "Why are you looking for the living among the dead? He isn't here!"
 - "Don't you remember He said he must suffer, die and rise again?"
 - "Go tell His disciples... including Peter"
- Mary Magdalene looks over her shoulder/Sees someone standing behind her
- Not recognizing who it is...Jesus now says to her...
 1. **"Why are you crying?"** and **"Who are you looking for?"**
 2. Believing it is the gardener Mary replies...

"Sir, if you have taken Him away tell me where you have put him and I will go get Him!"

- Jesus replies in a voice she now recognizes, "**Mary**" she responds... "**Teacher!**"
- 3 ladies all fall down to worship Him, grabbing His feet!
 1. Filled w/Fear and Great Joy!
 2. Too frightened to talk the ladies finally go find the disciples
- Mary Magdalene reports to Peter and his companions who are weeping
 1. "**I have found the Lord**"
 2. They don't believe her as "it sounded like nonsense" to them
- Even so... Peter and John run to the tomb
 1. John [the apostle whom Jesus loved] tells us he got there first
 2. They see empty tomb and linen wrappings.

Jesus is Alive...Reveals Himself to Friends

Acts 1:2b Jesus also **presented Himself alive** after His suffering by many infallible proofs...

1 Corinthians 15:6 [Apostle Paul testified] ...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...

Jesus died for our sins/Buried/Rose again on 3rd Day
Death Conquered /Sin Removed/Life given

III. Life

Jesus confirmed life after death by rising from the dead
Jesus died that we might have life...

John 10:10b ... I have come that they **may have life**, and that they may have it **more abundantly**.

- Devil, World, and Sin separate us from God/Real life
 1. Captives to bondage to sin
 2. Awaiting the penalty of sin

God chose to provide a Way

1 John 2:2 Jesus is the **substitutional sacrifice** for our sins...

The Cross offers all of us the Great Exchange
Trade our Sin for Jesus Perfect Righteousness

2 Corinthians 5:21 ...the Father made Jesus who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **we might become the righteousness of God in Him**.

Peace with God and Peace of God

Philippians 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; 7 and **the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.**

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you.

No longer bound to addictions/Paralyzed by fear/Ravaged by bitterness
Jesus offers abundant life here and now!

Life: gr **zō-ā'**: Life real/genuine, a life active/vigorous, devoted to God, a blessed life even in tribulation for those who put their trust in Christ...

Jesus died to offer us abundant life today
Jesus rose to guarantee Eternal Life forever. Do you want it?

Matthew 19:16 ... [Man asked Jesus], "Good Teacher, **what good thing** shall I do that I may have **eternal life?**"

Eternal Life is not found in religion but in a Person...

John 11:25 "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Many people know the Bible but not Jesus

John 5:39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 But you are not willing to **come to Me** that **you may have life.**

- **Eternal Life:** Lavished w/the Kindness of God forever

Ephesians 2:4 [Once children of God's wrath] **But God,** who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, **7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.**

- **Fact #1:** Jesus sacrifice is sufficient to save the entire world
- **Fact #2:** The entire world will not be saved/Neglect this great Salvation

Matthew 7:13 Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and **broad is the way that leads to destruction,** and there are many who go in by it. 14 Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are **few who find it.**

John 14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one** comes to the Father except through Me.

There is only One way to God. One path. One Gate. One door. One Road.
Journey begins w/humility. God helps those who know they can't help themselves

Romans 3:10...As it is written: "There is **none righteous, no, not one...**

John 3:3 [Jesus to man steeped in religion/on his way to hell] "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again**, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

- All our righteousness is as filthy rags to God. Self-righteousness is sin
- There is nothing we can do to save ourselves from hell. **Why?**

We are all born into sin/Spiritually dead

Romans 5:12... just as through **one man [Adam] sin entered** the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, **because all sinned...**

Romans 6:23... the wages of sin [is] **death...**

The consequence of sin is Death/Separation from God

- All that is Good, Holy, Right, Pure, Light, Life, Love, Just, Fulfilling, Clean
- Forever separated. Outer darkness. Eternal torment

NOTE: Jesus did not die to save us from annihilation
Jesus died to save us from Eternal Hell

Matthew 25:46 [Sinners] will go away into **everlasting punishment**, but the righteous into **eternal life.**"

- **Everlasting/Eternal:** Same gr. word *ī-ō'-nē-os*. W/out end that which always be

We cannot save ourselves, yet because of His love...
God made a way when we were at our worst

IV. Love

Romans 5:8... God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners Christ died for us.**

I still don't know what to do?

Acts 16:30 "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" 31 So they said, "**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ**, and you will be saved..."

Romans 10:9... if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, **you will be saved...**

- Believe Jesus is Lord: Ruler of your Life
- Believe Jesus rose bodily from the dead
- Believe Jesus is willing/able save you personally

Romans 10:13... **whoever** calls on the name of the LORD **shall be saved.**

We are saved by *Grace alone* through *Faith alone* in *Christ alone*
Faith is the conduit of saving Grace. IOWs We hear. We accept. We believe.

Romans 10:17...So then **faith [comes] by hearing**, and hearing by the word of God.

We obtain faith by hearing the Word of God
You are a sinner. Jesus died for you. Jesus rose again for you

Do you believe that? Desire change? Have you come to yourself and don't like what you see?
Tired of being run over by feelings, devil, perverse world dictating who/what you should be?

Tired of doing what you don't want to do...
Doing what you know is wrong?

- Fighting God/Taking His goodness for granted
- Selfish/Self-centered/Controlling
- Slandering/Gossiping/Acting in malice
- Godless: No thought of God at all
- False philosophies while Suppressing truth
- Pursuing dark things: Music/Films/Occult
- Love of money above everything/Everyone
- Addictions: Gaming, Sex, Drugs, Alcohol...that ain't life

Tired of doing what you don't want to do?
There is victory in the Resurrection Power of the Spirit of God

Romans 8:11 ...if the **Spirit of Him** who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also **give life** to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

John 8:36 ...if the Son makes you free, you will be **free indeed**.

Romans 6:23... the wages of sin is death, **but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord**.

We will find the *peace of God* when we make *peace with God*

Romans 5:1 ... **justified** by faith, **we have peace with God** through our Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus died for our sins, was buried and rose again on the 3rd Day
He is risen and so shall whosoever trusts in Him

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life**.