

“RESCUE: The King Risen!”

NLT 2 Timothy 1:10- “..now He has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News.”

ESP 2 Timoteo 1:10- “..y que ahora ha sido manifestada por la aparición de nuestro Salvador Cristo Jesús, quien abolió la muerte y sacó a la luz la vida y la inmortalidad por medio del evangelio.”

NKJV Revelation 1:17-18- “And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."”

ESP Apocalipsis 1:17–18- “Cuando lo vi, caí como muerto a sus pies. Y El puso su mano derecha sobre mí, diciendo: No temas, yo soy el primero y el último, y El que vive, y estuve muerto; y he aquí, estoy vivo por los siglos de los siglos, y tengo las llaves de la muerte y del Hades.”

I. In Resurrection, Jesus shows the way to Life! (v.17,18a)

II. In Resurrection, Jesus shows the way to Immortality! (v.18b)

I. In Resurrection, Jesus shows the way to Life! (v.17,18a)

"Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead.."

"No temas, yo soy el primero y el último, y El que vive, y estuve muerto.."

- There was a man who worked his whole life, saved up all of his money, and was a stingy, selfish miser. He never liked to spend his money, and so his wife never got any of the nice things she could have had. But eventually, as it does for all men, it came time for this rich man to die. And while he was on his deathbed, this rich miser said to his wife, "Honey, when I die I want to make sure that you take all of my money and bury it with me. I want all of that money for the next life, in my afterlife." Though she was in tears, and though she was highly emotional, she gathered up all the strength she could find, looked at her dying husband, and sincerely made the promise, "Yes my love... I'll do it!" Soon after this, against all expectation, the rich man passed away. There he was, stretched out in his casket, before his friends and family. The funeral was just about over, and the undertaker was about ready to close the casket, when his wife turned widow, jumped up and said, "Just one moment." She walked forward with a metal box, placed it gently into the casket of her dead husband, and sat back down. Her friend seated next to her, quietly whispered, "Don't tell

me, you just put all of that money in his casket, did you?" She said, "Yes I did, I made a promise to my husband, and I have kept my word." Her friend persisted, "But tell me that you weren't foolish enough to put all of his money in that casket, were you?" The widow answered, "I fulfilled my promise to my husband, and I gave him all of his money, just as he requested. I took all of his funds, put them in my account, and wrote him a check...If he can cash it, he can spend it."

- **DEATH** was a very real issue in the **1st century**:
 - In 96 A.D. Emperor Domitian was on the throne, and was unleashing the 2nd great wave of State-sponsored persecution against all Christians in the empire: beatings, burnings, crucifixions, arena executions...
- **DEATH** is still a very real issue in the **21st century**. **DEATH** is a well known enemy to many of us. The older that we get, the more of our family, friends, and loved ones, pass from this life into the next...
- **DEATH** invades our lives in many different ways...and it causes so much pain and sadness: *Sickness or Disease, Car Accidents, Criminal violence or Terrorism, or simply the advancement of Old Age and our bodies breaking down...*
- **QUESTION**: "Where did death come from? How did death originate?"
 - **DEATH** came into the human race through Adam, thru his sin:
 - **Romans 5:12**-*"When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone..."*
- But today, on **RESURRECTION SUNDAY**, on **Easter**, is where we remember that **Jesus conquered DEATH**, and **ROSE** from the dead! This means that, as a Christian, you **don't need to fear DEATH** anymore! - **Jesus shows us the way to Life!**
 - **"LONG LIVE THE KING"** - *After speaking of the Death of Christ, continues and says: "...but this King is not gone forever; the story has not ended. The story has a twist; a third act; there is a third day. And on that third day, the King stripped Death of its power, and extinguished the sting of Hades! This King is NOT defeated; this King is NOT destroyed! This King is the Resurrection; He is the Life; He is the Alpha and Omega; the Beginning and the End! The King has RETURNED, leaving Death behind, defeating Hades, inviting us all to live in His VICTORY, in His KINGDOM, in His PEACE! Yes, the King is risen! LONG LIVE THE KING!!*
 - **Romans 8:37-39**-*"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor*

things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

- *Jesus is showing us the way to Life!* - **"..I am He who lives, and was dead.."**
 - **Father & son...with a bee in their car. -"I took the sting for you!"**

- However, if you're NOT a follower of Jesus today, then how are you dealing with the fear of death? What or who are you trusting in, to keep you safe when your moment comes, to leave this world behind? Who will protect you in that moment?

- **Hebrews 9:27** NLT- *"..each person is destined to die once and after that comes judgment.."*
- **John 10:10** NLT - *"The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy. My purpose is to give them a rich and satisfying life."*
- **"..I am He who lives, and was dead.."** - *Jesus is showing you the way to Life!*

- For the apostle John, instead of the fear of **DEATH**, he chose to have faith in **CHRIST!!** John could do this, because he knew Who Jesus really was.. **John understood Jesus' true Identity!!**

- **"Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last."** - This was a clear statement of Christ's Divinity - that Jesus is God, the Son!!

- More than 100 times the Bible clearly teaches that **Jesus Christ is FULLY GOD, and FULLY MAN** - the "God-Man":

- **John 1:1-2; 1:14** - *Jesus is the eternal Word made flesh! (Gen 1:1)*
- **John 8:24,58** - *Jesus is the Great "I AM" (Exo 3:14)*
- **John 11:25** - **"Resurrection & the Life"** - *Jesus is showing you the way to Life!*

- If you're NOT a follower of Jesus today...

- Who are **YOU** giving your fears about **DEATH** to?
- **In Who are YOU** trusting in when the moment comes for **YOU** to **DIE??**
- Why not entrust your **fears**, your **worries**, your **anxieties** about **DEATH** into the mighty, and loving hands of God Himself?
- Why not let Jesus' **victory over DEATH** become **YOURS** too?

II. In Resurrection, Jesus shows **the way to Immortality!** (v.18b)

"..behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death."

"..y he aquí, estoy vivo por los siglos de los siglos, y tengo las llaves de la muerte y del Hades."

- **DOUBT the EVIDENCE for the RESURRECTION?!? Remember, John wasn't the only one who saw Jesus physically risen from the dead...**
 - *Eyewitnesses; Enemies; Expert soldiers; Empty tomb; Empty shroud; Explosive growth of the church; Elimination of traditions; Executions...*

- **Keys are symbolic of AUTHORITY and POWER in the Scriptures!**
 - Car keys, House keys, City keys... all represent authority/access/power.
 - But now, because of His RESURRECTION, Jesus has the POWER & ACCESS & AUTHORITY over Hell, Death, and your Eternal IMMORTALITY in Heaven!!

- **Biblically & Historically, when ADAM sinned by obeying Satan, *he lost everything* to him. All of the authority, the power, the position that God had entrusted to ADAM, was lost to Satan in the moment that ADAM disobeyed his Creator, and willingly followed the devil... This has continued for thousands of years...**
 - 1 John 5:19 NLT - "...the world around us is under the control of the evil one."
 - Romans 5:12 NLT - "When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone..."

- **But then, the KING came to the earth, Jesus Christ, and He accomplished VICTORY over Satan, and defeated him thru the Cross. What Adam lost in the Garden, Christ regained at Calvary; the first Adam was a failure, but the Last Adam was triumphant and victorious:**
 - Romans 5:17 - "...But even greater is God's wonderful grace and His gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ."
 - 1 John 3:8 NLT - "The Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil."
 - John 12:31 NLT - "The time for judging this world has come, when Satan, the ruler of this world, will be cast out."

- **If you're NOT a follower of Jesus today, if you do not call Christ your KING and MASTER and LORD, then who actually has your loyalty?**
- **If Christ does not have your HEART and your ALLEGIANCE... WHO DOES ?**
 - Matt 12:30 NKJV - "He who is not with Me is against Me."
 - Joshua 24:15 NLT - "...choose today whom you will serve."

- **There is a silly MYTH in our modern society:** It says this "All you have to do get to Heaven...is just die!" Even though the person never spoke of Jesus, never worshiped Jesus, never was forgiven by Jesus...they go to Heaven?? **NO!!**

- **Going to Heaven is NOT AUTOMATIC**, it must be **INTENTIONAL**, it must be a deliberate, considered **CHOICE** that is made by a person. John said **"YES"** to Jesus...*have you???*

IF YOU CHOOSE CHRIST TO BE YOUR KING, YOUR ONLY HOPE:

- Christ's **Victory over DEATH** can be yours...*and you will receive ETERNAL LIFE!*
- Christ's **gift of IMMORTALITY** can be yours...*and you can go to HEAVEN FOREVER!*