**Ephesians 2:4-5 (NIV)** - "But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved".

**Genesis 22:1-2 (NIV)** – Some time later, God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am", he replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son, whom you love – Isaac – and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you".

Genesis 22:9-12 (NIV) — When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven, "Abraham! Abraham!" "Here I am", he replied. "Do not lay a hand on the boy", he said. "Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son".

**Hebrews 11:17-19 (NKJV)** – "By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, of whom it was said, 'In Isaac your seed shall be called', concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense".

"I'm in the midst of a testimony right now. I'm currently in the opposition phase" – *Terrell Gabriel* 

**Matthew 27:57-60 (NIV)** – "As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away".

**Luke 23:50-51 (NIV)** – "Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man, who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God".

**Matthew 27:62-64 (NIV)** – The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. "Sir", they said, "we remember that while He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again'. So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, His disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that He has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first".

**Luke 24:9-11 (NIV)** – "When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense".

"Dear Bewildered: Beat your preacher with a cat-of-nine-tails with 39 heavy strokes, nail him to a cross, hang him in the sun for 6 hours, run a spear through his heart, embalm him, put him in an airless tomb for 36 hours, and see what happens" – **Eutychus**, *Christianity Today* 

"Vain men! As if the same power that was necessary to raise and quicken the dead could not also remove the stone and break through the watch they had set. But by their excessive care and diligence, instead of preventing Christ's resurrection, as they intended, they have confirmed the truth and belief of it to all the world" – **Matthew Poole** 

**Matthew 27:65-66 (NIV)** – "Take a guard", Pilate answered. "Go, make the tomb as secure as you know how". So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting a guard".

**Matthew 28:2-6 (NIV)** – There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay".

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-21 (NIV) — "But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?" — "For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man