



“JESUS LIVES!”

John Chapter 20

*~ In this **GLORIOUS** chapter we have:*

I) THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS (v1-10)

II) THE RECOGNITION OF JESUS (v11-18)

III) THE RECEPTION OF JESUS (v19-23)

IV) THE REALIZATION OF JESUS (v24-31)

Intro: Look how the Messiah Jesus, fulfills four of the Jewish Feasts:

1) Feast of Passover (Leviticus 23:5) – Pointed to the Messiah as our Passover lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7) whose blood would be shed for our sins. Jesus was crucified during the time that the Passover was observed (Mark 14:12). Christ is a “lamb without blemish or defect” (1 Peter 1:19) because His life was completely free from sin (Hebrews 4:15). As the first Passover marked the Hebrews’ release from Egyptian slavery, so the death of Christ marks our release from the slavery of sin (Romans 8:2).

2) Feast of Unleavened Bread (Leviticus 23:6) – Pointed to the Messiah’s sinless life (as leaven is a picture of sin in the Bible), making Him the perfect sacrifice for our sins. Jesus’ body was in the grave during the first days of this feast, like a kernel of wheat planted and waiting to burst forth as the bread of life.

3) Feast of First Fruits (Leviticus 23:10) – Pointed to the Messiah’s resurrection as the first fruits of the righteous. Jesus was resurrected on this very day, which is one of the reasons that Paul refers to him in 1 Corinthians 15:20 as the “first fruits from the dead.”

4) Feast of Weeks or Pentecost (Leviticus 23:16) – Occurred fifty days after the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and pointed to the great harvest of souls and the gift of the Holy Spirit for both Jew and Gentile, who would be brought into the kingdom of God during the Church Age (see Acts 2). The Church was actually established on this day when God poured out His Holy Spirit and 3,000 Jews responded to Peter’s great sermon and his first proclamation of the gospel.

~ Jesus foretold His resurrection:

- John 2:18-22- So the Jews answered and said to Him, "What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Then the Jews said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" But He was speaking of the temple of His body. Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

- **Matthew 12:38-41**- *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.*

- **What are we to make of the phrase "three days and three nights"?**

Was Jesus saying that He would be dead for three full 24-hour periods before He would rise from the dead? It does not appear so. The phrase "three days and three nights" need not refer to a literal 72-hour period. Rather, according to the Hebrew reckoning of time, the days could refer to three days in part or in whole. Jesus was probably crucified on a Friday (**Mark 15:42**). According to the standard reckoning, Jesus died at about 3:00 PM (**Matthew 27:46**) on Friday (day 1). He remained dead for all of Saturday (day 2) and rose from the dead early on Sunday morning (day 3). Attempts to place Jesus' death on Wednesday to accommodate a literal 72-hour period are probably unnecessary once we take into account the Hebrew method of reckoning of each day as beginning at sundown. So it seems that the expression "three days and three nights" was used as a figure of speech meant to signify any part of three days.

- Remember Jesus said in **John 11:24-27**- *Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."*

I) THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS (v1-10)

- The RESURRECTION OF CHRIST is recorded in **Matthew 28:1-20**; **Mark 16:1-20**; **Luke 24:1-53**; **John Chapters 20 – 21**; **Acts 1:1-11**; an appearance to **Stephen - Acts 7:54-60**; and **Saul who became Paul the Apostle – Acts 9:1-6**; the *hope of the resurrection* is found in **1 Corinthians Ch. 15**.

(v1) *Mary Magdalene*, the woman from whom Jesus cast out seven demons. The name Magdalene indicates that she came from Magdala, a city on the southwest coast of the Sea of Galilee. After Jesus cast seven demons from her (**Luke 8:2**; **Mark 16:9**), she became one of His followers. According to the TALMUD (the collection of Rabbinic writings that make up the basis of religious authority for traditional Judaism), the city of Magdala had a reputation for prostitution.

(v2-10) The order of events on the resurrection morning were as follows:

In the early morning, the women went to the tomb of Jesus to anoint His body, even though they did not know how they could get into the tomb (Mk. 16:2-3). There were the three, Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James, Mk. 16:1; Lk. 24:10), and Salome, followed by other women who had accompanied Jesus from Galilee (Lk. 23:55—24:1). The three women found the stone had been removed by an angel (Mt. 28:2). Mary Magdalene hurried to tell Peter and John, who ran toward the tomb (Jn. 20:2-4). Meanwhile, Mary the mother of James, Salome, and then the other women arrived at the tomb, entered it, and saw angels who assured them Jesus had risen. They ran from the tomb in fear and joy to inform His disciples (Mt. 28:8). Peter and John arrived at the tomb, entered, observed, and left (Jn. 20:4-10). Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb, stood weeping, and Jesus revealed Himself to her (Jn. 20:11-18). As the other women were on their way to tell His disciples, Jesus appeared to them (Mt. 28:9-10).

- Let us see with progressive insight - When John wrote this account, he used three different Greek words for seeing John 20:5, the verb simply means "to glance in, to look in." In John 20:6, the word means "to look carefully, to observe." The word "saw" in John 20:8 means "to perceive with intelligent comprehension." Their Resurrection faith was now dawning? (from The Bible Exposition Commentary)

- Paul saw the Resurrection in Ps 2:7 (Acts 13:33). Peter saw it in Ps 16:8-11 (Acts 2:23-36 and note 13:35). Peter also referred to Ps 110:1 (Acts 2:34-35). The statement "He shall prolong His days" in Isa 53:10 is also interpreted as a prediction of Christ's resurrection. Jesus Himself used the Prophet Jonah to illustrate His own death, burial, and resurrection (Matt 12:38-40); and this would include the "three days" part of the message. Paul saw in the Feast of Firstfruits a picture of the Resurrection (Lev 23:9-14; 1 Cor 15:20-23), and again, this would include "the third day." Some students see the Resurrection and "the third day" in Hos 6:2.

II) THE RECOGNITION OF JESUS (v11-18)

(v11-15) Angels speaking, Mary weeping, Jesus says, "who are you seeking?"

(v16-18) Jesus calls her by name and Mary calls Him, "*Rabboni!*" (*which is to say Teacher*). Notice that Mary does not call Jesus, lover, or husband as some would want to deceive us into thinking that Jesus and Mary, were married and ran off to Europe and started a divine family. Jesus is her teacher and He taught her about the love and power of God!

- Let's look to others who recognized Jesus - Luke 24:13-48; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11.

III) THE RECEPTION OF JESUS (v19-23)

(v19-21) Jesus says, "Peace be with you" and "Peace to you"

- Isaiah 9:6 says Jesus is the “Prince of Peace”

- Paul writes in Romans 5:1-3 - Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

- Listen to what we are to be doing according to Romans 10:14-17 - *How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!” But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed our report?” So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

(v22-23) Receive the Holy Spirit—Receive forgiveness of sin!

- “breathed on them”- cp. Genesis 2:7 - And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

- “sins forgiven / retained” – Acts 5:1 - Ananias and Sapphira
Acts 8:14-25 - Simon the Sorcerer

- The power of the Holy Spirit is explained in Acts 1:4-8 - *And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

- Manifested in Acts Ch. 2 - Pentecost

IV) THE REALIZATION OF JESUS (v24-31)

(v24-29) Jesus confronts the unbelief of Thomas as our Lord's words translate literally, “Stop becoming faithless but become a believer.”

- Thomas declares the deity of Christ in “My Lord and my God!”

~ Observe the Deity of Christ:

- God has come near in the person of Jesus - Matthew 1:23 - *“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” (Isaiah 7:14 - Prophetic fulfillment.)*

- John 1:1-2 - *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.*

- He has taken on a form in which He can be seen, experienced and understood by us as human beings – John 1:14 - *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

- John 1:18 - *No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.*

- Jesus reveals God to us perfectly since in His human life He is the image of God according to 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 - *But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.*

(v30-31) Do you believe? If the answer is YES, then you receive LIFE IN HIS NAME!

- Jesus said in John 3:14-17 - *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 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. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.*

- John 3:36 - *"He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."*

GET SAVED! AND LET'S GO FOR GOD!!!