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**They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.
Luke 24: 2-3**

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THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST—Pastor Chance Glenn

Sunday, April 21 is EASTER. This is a time when our church makes special effort to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Do you know what took place on that first resurrection Sunday? Do you know what difference his resurrection makes in your life? Hopefully you will be able to answer those questions and truly celebrate Easter this year. **What took place on that Sunday?**

Friday Evening: Jesus was buried near sundown on Friday evening (Matt. 27:57-60; Mark 15:42-46; Luke 23:50-54; John 19:31-42)

Saturday: Guards were stationed at the tomb to prevent Jesus' disciples from stealing his body (Matt 27:61-66)

Sunday Morning Early: A group of women came to the tomb and discovered the stone had been rolled away and that Jesus' body was missing (Matt 28: 1-4; Mark 16:2-4; Luke 24:1; John 20:1)

Sunday Morning Early: Two angels appeared to the women and announced that Jesus had risen! (Matt 28:2-7; Mark 16:5-7; Luke 2:7)

Sunday: Some of the women reported what they had seen to the apostles prompting Peter and John to race to the tomb to look for themselves (Matt 28:8; Luke 9:12; John 20:2-10)

Sunday: Mary Magdalene returned to the tomb where she met Jesus (Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18)

Sunday: Jesus appeared to the other women and commissioned them to tell the brethren

what they had seen (Matt 28:9-10)

Sunday: Soldiers reported the empty tomb to the Jewish authorities who paid them to lie and say the disciples stole Jesus' body (Matt 28:11-15)

Sunday: Jesus appeared to Cleopas and his companion on the road to Emmaus, and he appeared separately to Peter (Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-35)

Sunday Evening: Jesus appeared to 10 of the disciples who were gathered behind locked doors (Mark 16:14; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25)

Over a week later: Jesus appeared to the Eleven disciples and Thomas has a special encounter with Jesus (John 20:26-31)

Appearances over a 40 day period (Acts 1:3): He appeared to the disciples in Galilee (Matt 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18; Luke

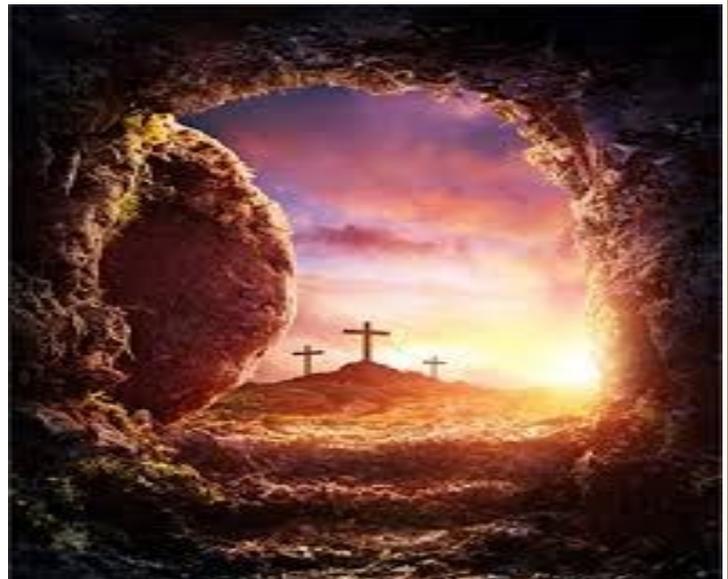
24:44-53; John 21) He also presented himself to over 500 brethren at one time (1 Corinthians 15:6)

What difference does His resurrection make?

Because He died and rose again...

- ... your sins can be forgiven.
- ... the gospel is true.
- ... trusting in Christ is NOT meaningless.
- ... you can be resurrected and receive a new body.
- ... He rules the universe.
- ... you can be victorious over death.
- ... you can work hard for His glory. (1 Corinthians 15)

Will you trust him and experience the blessings of the resurrection? Will you join us Sunday, April 21, 2019, as we joyfully celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ?



You are Fearfully and Wonderfully Made—by Pastor Chance Glenn

On January 22, 2019 New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo signed The Reproductive Health Act (RHA). This is a law that legalizes abortion “within twenty-four weeks from the commencement of the pregnancy, or there is an absence of fetal viability, or the abortion is necessary to protect the patient’s life or health” (Article 25-A). Some cheered RHA as an act of heroism, others protested RHA as an act of horror. One thing is certain; there is no straddling the fence on the issue of abortion. As pastor of Atlanta Baptist Church, I would like to present what the Bible says about abortion. I hope that this will encourage Christians to uphold a God-centered perspective of abortion and encourage non-Christians to come to faith in Jesus Christ.

EVERY PERSON IS FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE, INCLUDING THE UNBORN

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them (Psalm 139:13-16)

GOD BRINGS HIS JUDGMENT ON THOSE WHO SHED INNOCENT BLOOD, UNBORN BABIES ARE INNOCENT

You shall say, Thus says the Lord GOD: A city that sheds blood in her midst, so that her time may come, and that makes idols to defile herself! You have become guilty by the blood that you have shed, and defiled by the idols that you have made, and you have brought your days near, the appointed time of your years has come. Therefore I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mockery to all the countries. (Ezekiel 22:3-4)

Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of the Ammonites, and for four, I will not revoke the punishment, because they have ripped open pregnant women in Gilead, that they might enlarge their border. (Amos 1:13)

GOD JUDGES ALL UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, NOT JUST ABORTION

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth (Romans 1:18)

ALL SINNERS CAN BE FORGIVEN AND SET FREE FROM SIN, EVEN THOSE WHO COMMITTED ABORTION **Confess your sin and grieve over it**

For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and

blameless in your judgment (Psalm 51:3-4)

Trust Christ to suffer God’s wrath against your sins

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed (Isaiah 53:5)

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace (Ephesians 1:7)

Draw Near to God through Christ and you will be cleansed

let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water (Hebrews 10:22)

For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. (Hebrews 8:12)

Then He said to her, “Your Sins are forgiven...Your faith has saved you, go in peace” (Luke 7:48-50)

CHRISTIANS MUST DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF THE OPPRESSED, INCLUDING THE UNBORN

Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute. Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy (Proverbs 31:8-9)

Scripture to Ponder...

Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer, contributing to the needs of the saints, practicing hospitality. Romans 12:9-13

Reaching out Through Song—Connor Cain

On December 22nd our church family went Caroling to different homes in our small town of Atlanta. We went around to different homes and we saw smiles on many faces. Our church caroling allowed me to sing about Jesus (Joy to the World), his birth (Away in a Manger / O Little Town of Bethlehem), and how He can bring joy to each of us (Joy to the World).

As I was going around singing, I felt God using me and it showed my community that I

trust and believe in Christ. It also tells our community that our church members are people you can ask for help. You can ask any of us for help getting to know God or if you or your family are in need of prayer. There was something special happening while we were caroling; we felt that God was leading us to the places and people that needed it the most.

To be truthful, I didn't want to go and sing, but I knew that our community would enjoy it. The holiday season can be diffi-

cult for some, so I hoped that the caroling might take their minds off of the different things that could be going on in one's life. While we were singing, I felt that God was working through me and He helped me understand that there are families in my community in need and something so small and simple can bring joy to them.



Meal Night—it's a Mission—Brandy Baker

I began my AWANA Meal night mission approximately five years ago. My goal was to reach the parents of the children coming. The best way for this to happen was to invite them into our church once a month for a family meal night. Everyone likes to eat, right?!

When I first started working on the meal nights I was overwhelmed with the time it took to purchase all the product, find volunteers, and then prepare and serve. Looking back I see why God put me

in this place. As a Christian I love to serve our community and by doing this I am serving God. That is exactly what I do during our meal nights.

Seeing the joy of the children bringing their parents with them is such a blessing to my heart. I love to hear the children ask what our next meal will be and then hear them tell their parents as they are picked up. Meal night has opened up opportunities for parents to help. Each year we have 2 meals where I ask parents to help prepare and

serve. Mothers help with soup month and fathers help with breakfast month. The kids love to see their parents helping.

Not only have the meal nights allowed me to serve our community and God, it has allowed our church to minister to our community in a way that is pleasing to the Lord. I am sure meal night will continue to grow in the years to come and who knows what the Lord will have in store next...

“As a Christian I love to serve our community and by doing this I am serving God.”

Coping with Illness and Death—Meggie Bondy

We all have known someone in our life who has lost a loved one to some sort of illness. We try to give comfort and support, but often find ourselves struggling with what to do or say. After all, no one deals with grief the same. As a young girl, I lost my father to cancer. I was the youngest of 5. My mom was left to take care of 5 kids ages 8-16. I remember her crying on a

family friend's shoulder asking, “What am I going to do?” Mr. Stark lifted my mom's face, wiped her tears, and said with such confidence, “You know Margaret, God will never give you more than you can handle.” I took those wise words of wisdom with me through my entire life.

Whether it be an illness, death, conflict, or just a bad day, those

words were always there for me.

As I grew older, I have found where the scriptures show us how we are to handle our struggles. Here are a few that I have found helpful. Job 9:19 and Psalms 18:32 tell us of God's strength and the strength we have through him.

We may feel we do not have

the strength to carry on but, through God, we are given the strength. I have often referred to those special words given to my mother and I recall thinking how great is it to know how powerful and all-knowing God is. After all, he has everything all planned out. I have, however, changed those wise words to what I feel are more appropriate. “God will never give you more than He can handle”.

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Service Times

Sunday School: 9:30 am
Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
Youth Group: Sunday 7:00 pm
Small Group: Sunday 7:00 pm
AWANA: Wednesday 6:00 pm

**We're on the web:
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Building your House on the Rock—Beth Miller

I am blessed because I grew up in a home with Christian parents who took the time to teach me about God, his word (2 Timothy 3:16), the sacrifice he made through his son Jesus (John 3:16), and the plan that he has for my life (Jeremiah 29:11). They built their house on the rock by trusting God and making him a priority in our home. They took us to church every week; prayer and scripture reading were a regular part of our routine at home. I observed love, forgiveness, and mercy that they have for one another, my brothers, and me. My parents have been an example of returning to God after making mistakes, asking for forgiveness, and making changes in their life and this was only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit.

I got saved after listening to a message that my father gave. I learned that I will sin but can always return to my God who will forgive me. When I did wrong things the fruit of the spirit was quoted to me: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). This sticks with me today and helps me strive to allow the spirit to overcome my less than patient reactions. I also learned that through practicing spiritual disciplines such as reading my Bible, memorizing verses, spending time in prayer, and attending church I can grow closer to God (Hebrews 6:1) and am more likely to live out the plan he has for me (Colossians 2:6-7).

My parents were not perfect,

they made plenty of mistakes, but by making God the foundation of our family they had a tremendous impact on my walk as a Christian. God doesn't discriminate; he accepts us regardless of our past and loves us dearly (2 John 4:10). I am grateful for the impression my parents left on me and hope that my husband and I can influence our children in the same way. Whether you grew up with parents like mine or have a completely different experience, God has a plan for your life. It's never too late to build your house on the rock (Matthew 7:24-27)!

