

Resurrection Sunday 2023

Light

On Friday evening...Darkness on a very bloody day, the darkest in the history of the world

This morning...Light breaks forth from the grave

“Why” it had to be this way

We will be in Hebrews 2

- v1 Since Jesus is the Son of God (Ch 1), we must pay unwavering attention to the testimony of God about His Son so we don't ever neglect or take for granted what God has done for us

Let us remember what we have heard from the angels:

“Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead.” (Matt 28:5b-7a)

v2-4 If/Since

- the word of God spoken by angels (and messengers including prophets) was certainly true (and the Scriptures must be fulfilled)
Matt 26:54 But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be? (to sword-wielding Peter when Jesus was being betrayed by Judas)
Matt 26:56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. (to the multitudes of soldiers when they came to arrest Him in the Garden of Gethsemane)
Mark 14:49b but the scriptures must be fulfilled. (Mark's account of His arrest in Gethsemane)
- EVERY sin and act of disobedience will be “paid back” to make God whole, either by Jesus (John 1:29) or by unbelieving sinner (someone must pay)
John 3:16-19 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

2 Cor 5:21

Eph 2:8-9

how can we debtors escape the judgment of God for our sins if we are negligent, dismissive, cavalier, or careless with God's great salvation of sinners?

1 Cor 5:3-4

Gal 1:4 Who (Lord Jesus Christ) gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father:

This radical plan of salvation of creatures dead-in-their-sin was spoken by

- the Lord

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life

John 6:35 I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.
(for righteousness)

John 6:51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, *they* are spirit, and *they* are life.

John 8:23-24 Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world. I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am ~~he~~, ye shall die in your sins.

John 8:51 Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

John 11:25-26 I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

John 14:6

- those that heard Him, the Apostle's...the Apostle's doctrine, which was confirmed by God the Holy Spirit working in the "Acts of the Apostles"

v5-8 Angels are ministering spirits sent by God to minister unto the heirs of salvation – those who believe the testimonies of

- Jesus Christ
- the Apostles
- God the Father
- God the Holy Spirit

to come out of darkness into the Light

NOT given to angels is dominion in the next world

Dominion in this world was given to man (male and female, Adam and Eve)

But man forfeited that dominion to the serpent in the Garden of Eden

Darkness/death came into this world by their sin

This world was cursed by God

And this world will perish, burning up in fervent heat (2 Peter 3:10)

And then...the next world

Rev 21:1-5 And I saw a **new heaven** and a **new earth**: for the **first heaven** and the **first earth** were **passed away**; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (relationship). And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of **God is** with men, and he **will dwell with** them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God. And God shall **wipe away all tears** from their eyes; and there shall be **no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain**: for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, **Behold, I make all things new**. And he said unto me, **Write: for these words are true and faithful**.

Anybody interested in living in such a world?

Only those who choose to believe in Jesus Christ will

Dominion of that world is given to...the Son of Man

1 Cor 15:45 The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *was made* a quickening spirit.

Quoting Ps 8:4-8 a psalm of David

But since Heb 10:7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. (quoting Ps 40:7-8a)

John 5:39 **Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.**

the Holy Spirit is speaking of God's King, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Son of Man

- visitest = "select"
- made a little lower than the angels
- crowned with glory and honor
- given dominion over all creation
- all things put under His feet

Matt 28:18 **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

1 Cor 15:25-27a For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy *that* shall be destroyed *is* death. For he hath put all things under his feet.

But...we don't yet see all things under His feet

The prince of the power of the air, prince of darkness, still "reigns" in this world
Jesus Christ, God's King (Ps 2), gets His (1000 year) kingdom in this world in
Rev 5 when the Parable of the Pounds is fulfilled...**A certain nobleman
went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and to return.**
(Luke 19:12)

And Death has been defeated in this world for whosoever believes,
but death will be destroyed in the next world

How was Jesus' dominion "acquired"?

How do we see Jesus now?

v9 We see Jesus

1. made a little lower than the angels
Creator coming into the darkness of this world in the form of His beloved
creature in order to Personally suffer death
2. crowned with glory and honor
so that He, by the grace of God, would Personally experience death...
have "hand-to-hand combat" with death...for ALL man-kind,
all of Adam's descendants

Rom 5:17-21 For if by one man's offence death (darkness) reigned by one;
and we cry, "Not fair! I died because of Adam?!"
much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift
of righteousness shall reign in life (Life) by one, Jesus Christ.
God replies, "Not fair? My Son died that you might have
life...by faith (Hab 2:4)

Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to
condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one *the free gift
came* upon all men unto justification of life. For as by one man's
disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one
shall many be made righteous. Moreover the law entered, that the
offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much
more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might
grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ
our Lord.

God's justice (fairness) is satisfied by God Himself on our behalf
by the Son of God becoming the Son of Man to right the
wrong of man

Rom 6:23

Rom 10:4

v10 To save fallen man, it was “fit”, “right”, “suitable” for Jesus

- for Whom all of creation is
- by Whom are all things...make no mistake about Who Jesus is!

Col 1:16-17 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

as the captain/Author of man-kind's salvation to be perfect/complete (for our sakes)

by the suffering of death (man's enemy)

to bring/carry many sons (John 1:11-13) unto glory

- Light
- Life eternal

The mystery of the Christ

- God's King
- God's Son made flesh, given a human body born of a virgin
- to Personally die for all man-kind
- so all who believe/trust Him would be delivered from this world and given Light and Life and citizenship in the next world

1 Tim 1:15 This *is* a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;

Religion (essence of this fallen world) vs Relationship (essence of the next world)

Religion: what people do to get God's attention and to earn His pleasure

Relationship: what God has done to get people's attention that He loves them

v11-13 Both Jesus...the One Who sanctifies/purifies/sets apart for Himself

and believers...the ones sanctified by Jesus

are one...indivisible, in unbreakable union

John 17:20-23 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. That they all may be one; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

For that reason (one-ness with God purchased by His blood), Jesus is NOT ashamed to call us brethren/Family!!!

As Scripture says,

- Ps 22:22...the suffering Servant of God
- Is 8:17-18

Jesus is in the midst of the Church

Rev 1:13a, 17b-18 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks *one* like unto the Son of man...**Fear not; I am the first and the last: *I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.***
(taken from the devil before He walked out of the tomb)

Jesus is the Author and Finisher of faith who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb 12:2)

Jesus is the One to Whom we have been given by God the Father!

John 6:37-40 **All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

John 17:24 **Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.**

v14-15 As are we, so became the Captain/Author of our salvation

- occupied a body of dust
- its “lifeline” being blood...life for this body is in the blood
- appointed to die

Our Kinsman-Redeemer...since fallen man must be restored/saved by Unfallen Man... humbled Himself unto death, death on the Cross,

- to destroy the devil who had the power/dominion of death (from Gen 3)
- to deliver from the bondage and fear of death whosoever would believe on Him

1 Tim 2:10 ...our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel

The mystery of the Christ and the power of God (Resurrection)

- Gen 22 Isaac was “dead”, sold unto death, raised unto life again
- Job 19:25-27 For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth: And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; *though* my reins be consumed within me.
- 1 Sam 2:6 The LORD...bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.
- Ps 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.
- Ps 49:15 But God will redeem my soul from the power of the grave: for he shall receive me.
- Acts 2:23-24 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain: Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

v16-17 Therefore, the Christ did not take on the nature of angels but of the seed/descendants of Abraham, His friend (Gen 15:6)...by becoming the Seed of the Woman (Gen 3:15, a supernatural child from the line of Adam)

The Christ must take on the form of His brethren in order to

- be man-kind’s merciful and faithful High Priest...by rising from the dead
- make reconciliation for the sins of all man-kind...grace/forgiveness received only by faith

v18 Personally tempted as we (Matt 4:1-12), Jesus Christ is able to help us in our time of temptation

v1-3 our salvation is as sure as Jesus, the Risen Lord!

- 1 Peter 1:18-21 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.
- Phil 3:20-21 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

- 1 Thes 5:5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
- Col 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:
- 1 Thes 1:10 wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.
- 1 Thes 5:9-11 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do.

Darkness/Death no longer have power over us, the children of the Light/Life, in this world
Our inheritance is eternal Life
Our citizenship is in heaven

Darkness/Death rule for a little while longer in this world
But soon, Light/Life is coming to conquer the evil in this world and to set up His kingdom on earth

Darkness/Death have been conquered
Light/Eternal Life are given...to whosoever turns to the Lord Jesus Christ

Eloise swimming lessons
turn from death, turn to life
all the while screaming

If you have turned, stay focused!
Don't ever neglect or take for granted what God has done for you!
Don't be deceived or lulled into being negligent, dismissive, cavalier, or careless with God's great salvation!

If you have not turned...turn and live forever

- free from the power of sin in this world
- in the next world...with God Himself, no more tears, no more death, no more sorrow, no more crying, no more pain

Confess
Repent
Call
Receive

How is eternal life possible?
He is risen!