

**HE IS RISEN!
EASTER SUNDAY 2011
ROMANS 6:3-10**

BY WAY OF THE CROSS

1. Jesus, the Son of God, came in the **flesh** (John 1:1, 14).
2. Jesus was a lover of the real world even as He came to **change** the real world (John 3:16, 17).
3. Jesus Christ came into the world to **destroy** the works of the devil and to suffer and die in the **place** of sinners (Heb. 2:17).

KEY THOUGHT: By Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection we are **spiritually healed** (Rom. 10:9-10).

I. JESUS DIED IN MY PLACE AS A DOOMED SINNER (ROM. 6:3-10).

- A. Every genuine believer is "baptized" into Jesus' **death** on the **cross** (Rom. 6:3).
 1. This is not a water baptism, but a statement that the one professing Christ is "**immersed**" in the **saving** work of Jesus on the cross (Rom. 6:3).
 2. Saving faith unites and identifies the Christian with the **payment** for sin that Jesus made on the cross (Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 6:17; 1 Pet. 3:21).
- B. Accepting Jesus as Lord and Savior gives us a "**new nature**" (Rom. 6:6).
 1. The old "sinful" nature is **gone** by virtue of **uniting** with Jesus, but the new nature is incarcerated in our unredeemed flesh (Rom. 6:6, 12).
 2. Jesus' work on the cross renders the body of sin in our lives **powerless** and inoperative for the Christian (Rom. 6:6).

KEY THOUGHT: Jesus Christ died for sin's **penalty** for all who profess Him as Lord and Savior (Rom. 6:10; 1 Pet. 3:18).

II. JESUS' BURIAL SET THE STAGE FOR THE BIG VICTORY OVER DEATH (JOHN 19:38-42).

- A. Jesus' body was hastily prepared for burial because the Jewish Sabbath was about to begin (John 19:40-42).
- B. Jesus' body was carefully laid to rest in a setting befitting His station as the Son of God (Luke 23:53-54).

KEY THOUGHT: Jesus' body lay at rest until early on the third day (John 20:1).

III. JESUS' RESURRECTION CONQUERED DEATH FOREVER FOR THE PROFESSING BELIEVER (1 COR. 15:3-4).

- A. The resurrection of Jesus is an historical fact that impacts the life of everyone who will ever live on earth (John 20:1-8).
 - 1. The tomb was sealed and a Roman guard set to secure Jesus' body (Matt. 27:65-66).
 - 2. Sunday morning, God the Father signaled the resurrection of His Son with an earthquake and the arrival of several angels (Matt. 28:1-4).
- B. The angel told of Jesus' bodily resurrection and victory over death (Luke 24:2-6).

KEY THOUGHT: Every born-again believer has been freed from sin's penalty and control as well as receiving the promise of life with Jesus now and throughout eternity (Rom. 6:4, 7-8).

FOR FURTHER STUDY AND PERSONAL GROWTH

April 24, 2011

SUNDAY: ***Jesus is the only Way to heaven (John 14:6)!*** Jesus is the only way to reach God the Father in heaven (John 14:6). That was made possible by Jesus' incarnation as a man on earth. Jesus, the Son of God, came to earth in the flesh (John 1:1, 14). Jesus was a lover of the real world even as He came to change the real world (John 3:16, 17). Jesus came that those who would believe on Him would have real life, an abundant life (John 10:10). Jesus Christ came into the world to destroy the works of the devil. He came to suffer and to die in the place of sinners (Heb 2:17). Acceptance of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection brings spiritual healing to our lives with complete victory. Choose today to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Praise God for His provision for our spiritual healing. ***May the narrow gate to heaven be celebrated because it demands an encounter with the Living God!***

MONDAY: ***Jesus died to redeem men from sin's penalty (Rom. 6:3)!*** Saving faith accepts Jesus' death on the cross as payment for sin's penalty. Jesus died in the place of every sinner that is redeemed by His innocent substitutionary death (Rom. 6:3-10). Every genuine believer is "baptized" into Jesus' death on the cross (Rom. 6:3). This is not a water baptism, but a statement that one professing Jesus as Savior is "immersed" in the saving work of Jesus on the cross. Saving faith unites and identifies the Christian with the payment for sin that Jesus made on the cross (Rom. 6:3; 1 Cor. 6:17). Jesus did the work that was impossible for the sinner to do. The sinner need only accept that Jesus is the Son of God and that His death on the cross made full payment for his/her sin. Choose today to make Jesus your Lord and Savior. Christians should rejoice in Jesus' work for sinners and decide who they will share it with today. ***May the truth of the Gospel thrill your heart and overflow from your life!***

TUESDAY: ***Jesus gives us a "new nature" as Christians (Rom. 6:6)!*** The old sinful life is erased from God's memory banks! The old nature that would separate the unsaved sinner from God is gone. The new nature is all that is present, though it is incarcerated in the body of unredeemed flesh. When Jesus comes again, the believer will get a new body that frees his new nature to live in a completely heavenly way. For now, Jesus' work on the cross renders the body of sin in the lives of Christians powerless and inoperative (Rom. 6:6). Pray for the wisdom and strength to choose not to sin. Agree to surrender to the Lordship of Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit in your life (Gal. 2:20). ***May the "new nature" in Christ become your road map to living life!***

WEDNESDAY: ***Jesus' burial set the stage for the big victory over death (John 19:38-42)!*** Jesus' burial was completed in a short time because the sun was setting, and the Jewish Sabbath began at sundown on Friday. Those who loved Jesus had planned to return immediately after the Sabbath to complete the burial preparations for their beloved Master (John 19:40-42). Jesus was laid in an expensive family tomb reserved for a wealthy man's family. No one had ever been buried in the tomb before (Luke 23:53-54). Jesus' body was laid to rest on Friday evening and remained in the tomb until early on the third day (John 20:1). This was a time of mourning and depression for the followers of Jesus who did not remember His teaching that He would be killed, buried, and would rise on the third day. Praise God for His thorough preparation of the

scene to conquer sin and death through the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ! *May your mind's eye picture the glory and majesty of the stone being rolled away, Jesus sitting up in the tomb, and walking out on Sunday morning!*

THURSDAY: *Jesus' resurrection is an historical fact (John 20:1-8)!* The calendars of man revolve around the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Archeological evidence supports the Bible's accounts of civilizations and the events that surrounded them. The account of the Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection is supported by numerous findings in Jerusalem and there is no evidence to the contrary. Lives have been miraculously transformed for centuries by the saving power of Christ's death and victory over death in His resurrection. Christians today will speak of the dynamic and supernatural change in their lives when they placed their faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior. Choose to follow the Light of the world and Son of God. Accept Jesus today as your Lord and Savior. Praise God for the Son of God coming to earth to die for sinful man. *May the joy of this resurrection season carry over to every day for the rest of this year!*

FRIDAY: *Jesus brought victory over death (Luke 24:2-6)!* When Jesus was resurrected from the dead, He separated Himself from every other "prophet" by demonstrating that He was indeed the Son of God. The morning of Jesus' resurrection, the angel told of His victory over death. Jesus' words that He would meet them in Galilee emphasized that everything He ever taught had been true and could be trusted. Jesus is indeed the Son of God, and a personal relationship with Him is the only way to gain entrance into the family of God (John 14:6). Choose to be an active member of the family of God. Accept Him as your Lord and Savior to lead you in every area of your life. *May the reality of the resurrection seep deep into your spirit and change every thought you hold and every value you embrace!*

SATURDAY: *Christians are freed from sin and will live with Jesus forever (Rom. 6:4, 7-8)!* Every born-again believer has been freed from the stranglehold that sin had on life. The curse of sin no longer determined your destiny. Freedom from sin's penalty insured that you were in the family of God. Members of the family of God live their lives indwelt and led by the very presence of Jesus (Gal. 2:20). Not only does the Christian live a life filled by the leadership of Jesus on earth, life after death will be in the presence of Jesus (John 14:2-4). Praise God for His love, mercy, and grace. Praise him for the salvation he has made possible through sending Jesus to earth to die for sin and conquering death. *May the joy of knowing Christ overflow into every aspect of your life!*