

Daily Bible Study

“He Is Risen 2010”

Selected Scripture

March 28- April 3, 2010

THE LORD’S DAY & MONDAY – As we approach Resurrection Sunday, the day we celebrate the physical rising from the dead of Jesus Christ, I pray we would not get caught in the trap of being "too familiar" with the story. As Christians, we can easily find routine what needs to be kept fresh and new everyday. The resurrection of Christ is more than significant to those of us who are saved. It is the seal of affirmation that God was pleased with the sacrifice of His Son for sin. He proved it by "*raising Him from the dead*". May our prayer be that of the Apostle Paul found in **Philippians 3:10** when he said, "*That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection...*" Scripture records of the life of Jesus that He was ministering to His disciples and those who loved Him right up to the very end, despite the fact that there were plans and conspiracies going on to plot His death everywhere He went. **John 11** tells a story that took place while Jesus was standing in the shadow of the cross as it was quickly approaching. The story is of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. In **John 11:1-16** we see the disciples were starting to get worried as the hostility against Jesus was increasing (vs. 8). Jesus pressed on and continued His mission despite any possible problems, knowing He was safe in completing God's purposes (vs. 9-10). Then Jesus spoke some of the most beautiful and the most profound words one could ever hear in **John 11:25-26** when He said, "*I am the Resurrection and the Life...*" Notice the “I” beloved. You can mark it down, NO power of resurrection or eternal life exists outside the Son of God. Are you identified with Him in death and do you share in His life (**Romans 6:3-5**)? Read **John 11:34-44, 1 Corinthians 15:1-4**.

The Word Applied: Are you trusting in Him alone for your salvation from sin and its ultimate consequence—eternal death and separation from God in Hell?

Suggestion for Prayer: Lord, help us to remember the significance of Your resurrection both this week and every day. Thank the Lord that He is the Resurrection and the Life, and that it is only through Him we may also have life.

TUESDAY – In **John 12:1-8**, Scripture tells us that Jesus came to Bethany "*six days before the Passover*" and visited with Simon the Leper, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus (who Jesus raised from the dead). They ate supper and then Mary anointed Jesus with a very expensive ointment. Incredibly, this sincere act of love and devotion shown to Jesus caused some of the disciples to complain, especially Judas Iscariot -- (**Mark 14:3-9, Matthew 26:6-12**). Sadly, we see in those verses that even God’s true men; Jesus’ genuine believing disciples were also selfish sinners who were preoccupied many times with their own self centered thoughts and concerns. In **John 12:9-10** we are informed that many people came to see Jesus when they found out He was in town. The next

day, Jesus came to Bethpage and prepared to enter Jerusalem through the East Gate. This is the great event we call "The Triumphal Entry" or "Palm Sunday" which we celebrated last week. One important thing that we must remember to take note of is that Jesus was not a victim of men's schemes or circumstance. The entire plan of redemption was "*foreordained*", predetermined and fulfilled by God's sovereign provision (**1 Peter 1:19-20**). The events of Christ's life, including this His final week before death, were totally within His Divine control. Read **John 10:17-18**.

The Word Applied: Are you living your life this week as if you believe that God is the One who is in control of all things?

Suggestion for Prayer: Thank the Lord that His death and resurrection were ultimately His predetermined, ordained plan.

WEDNESDAY – The mosaic requirements tell us that the sacrificial lambs used for Passover be selected on the tenth day of the first month (originally called "Abib", but after the exile called "Nisan"). The Passover lamb would be taken into the people's home and be kept until the 14th day when it was sacrificed. You can imagine that there would be some degree and sense of attachment as well as even a measure of warmth and love toward this precious, "perfect" little lamb. Jesus, like the Passover lamb, was received by the people who although momentarily and hypocritically also expressed some measure of gladness, appreciation and affection toward Him. Then as the perfect fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures, Jesus was crucified on Friday the 14th of Nisan as the true and final Passover Lamb, sacrificed for the sin of His people. Read **Exodus 12:1-6**. You see the lamb was killed at "twilight" of the 14th (**vs. 6**). Moses identified "twilight" as the time of the "*going down of the sun*" (**Deuteronomy 16:6**). If you were to dig a bit into this Hebrew word you would find it described as the interval between the sun's beginning to decline, and sunset, corresponding to our three o'clock in the afternoon. We are informed by Josephus, the Jewish Historian from the time of Christ, that it was still the custom of his day to slay the Passover Lamb at about 3pm. This is the exact time of day when the true Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ, died. Read **Luke 23:44-46**.

The Word Applied: How would you describe your love to and for Jesus? Is it coming from a sincere heart which desire's to obey, honor & glorify Him for who He is and all that He has done? Do you find you have a fickle, "mood regulated" love for Him?

Suggestion for Prayer: Thank the Lord Jesus that He willingly laid down His life for you. Praise and adore Him as the greatest sacrifice of all time and thank Him that He alone is perfectly consistent in His love for you.

THURSDAY –On Thursday evening as Scripture records, when "*the hour had come*" (**Luke 22:14**), Jesus sat with His disciples and ate the Passover meal. This horrible hour had come in which Christ would face and taste death itself. He would bear the wrath of God His Father upon Himself as He would be punished for the sins of His people. Incredible is the fact that with this horror immediately before Him, He sets down to eat this meal with His disciples. The Passover

Lamb, the perfect Sacrifice sits and communes and eats the symbolic meal with men He would die for. The meal symbolized all of the people of God's deliverance from Egypt and portrayed the future sacrifice of Christ on the cross which would take place the very next day. Now, Jesus takes the Passover meal and changes it as He institutes The Lord's Supper or what we now call the Sacrament of The Lord's Table or Holy Communion (**Luke 22:19-20**). Before Jesus died the Passover looked forward to His sacrifice, the sacrifice of The Messiah Christ. Now we gather and worship at The Lord's Table as we take the time to look back and remember His atoning death for us. We proclaim His death as well as His present intercession on our behalf before The Father and we also look forward to His return. Today's Scripture ends with Jesus praying in the Garden of Gethsemane where He was finally betrayed and arrested. He referred to this time of betrayal as, "*this your hour, and the power of darkness*" (**vs. 53**). As you read the story in **Luke 22:39-53** thank God for such an obedient, courageous Savior; The Man-Christ Jesus.

The Word Applied: Take the time to prepare yourself for coming to The Lord's Table this evening. Ask God to examine your heart and confess any revealed sin.

Suggestion for Prayer: Thank the Lord for both His courage and example that we as His children need not fear death for He has overcome for us.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY – Today, my beloved brothers and sisters, we can look back and shout Hallelujah! Praise the Lord! If you are a child of God, born again through faith in Christ alone, not of your will, but of God's (**John 1:12-13**) your debt of sin has been paid to Almighty God! Christ paid it in full! **2 Corinthians 5:21** says God made Him to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. I pray we will be faithful to preach the message of the Cross, for it is the power of God unto Salvation (**1 Corinthians 1:18**). And beloved, we have peace with God through the blood of His Cross (**Colossians 1:20**). Read **Luke 23:26-46** and notice how Luke explains that even in death, the Great Physician ministered to those most aware of their need, like the penitent thief. But the story does not end with Christ's death. His death was triumphant but He shattered and crushed death itself as He arose in victory and power the third day. So much happened in the resurrection of Jesus; The Father vindicates His Son, He makes known to all that Christ is the preeminent One who will judge all men, He assures all who trust in Christ alone that they will be forgiven for The Father has accepted His Son's sacrifice. We could go on and on but let's close with the words of the familiar hymn: "Lo, in the grave He lay, Jesus my Savior; waiting the coming day, Jesus my Lord!" "Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus my Savior; vainly they seal the dead, Jesus my Lord!" "Death cannot keep its prey, Jesus my Savior; He tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord!" "Up from the grave He arose, with a mighty triumph o'er His foes. He arose a victor from the dark domain, and He lives forever with His saints to reign!" "He arose! He arose! Hallelujah, Christ arose!" Read and thank God for **Acts 2:23-24**, Amen!

Suggestion for Prayer: Praise God for the ultimate healing (forgiveness) that is available to us through the Lord Jesus' substitutionary, atoning death on the Cross. Praise be to you Lord Jesus that you are alive forevermore! Thank You Almighty God that we as your children, have been graciously granted eternal life as well.