

BEHIND THE SCENES & WHAT IT MEANS

EASTER 2020

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So if the dead won't be raised to life, Christ wasn't raised to life.

1 Corinthians 15:16 (CEV)

3 Perspectives of what happened at Easter:

1. Physical Perspective

I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve...then more than 500 of his followers at one time...

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 (NLT)

2. Spiritual Level I Perspective

...the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8b (NLT)

Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death.

Hebrews 2:14 (NLT)

3. Spiritual Level II Perspective

You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross. In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT)

...but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

2 Timothy 1:10 (NIV)

O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" For sin is the sting that results in death, and the law gives sin its power. But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable.

1 Corinthians 15:55-58a (NLT)

WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN FOR ME?

1. My past is completely taken care of!

He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.

Romans 4:25 (NLT)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...

1 Peter 1:3-4a (NIV)

2. The devil has no power over me!

My dear children, you belong to God and have defeated them; because God's Spirit, who is in you, is greater than the devil, who is in the world.

1 John 4:4 (NCV)

3. I don't have to be afraid of dying!

...I trust that my life will bring honor to Christ, whether I live or die. For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. But if I live, I can do more fruitful work for Christ. So I really don't know which is better. I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.

Philippians 1:20b-24 (NLT)

4. I will be with Jesus for eternity!

...we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus from the dead will also raise us with Jesus and present us with you in his presence.

2 Corinthians 4:14 (NIV)

*Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. **Do you believe this?**"*

John 11:25-26 (NIV)