

FROM CANCELLATION TO GREAT COMEBACK

EASTER SUNDAY

Vernon Zook April 4, 2021

Pilate responded, "Then what should I do with Jesus who is called the Messiah?" They shouted back, "Crucify him!" ... "Why?" Pilate demanded. "What crime has he committed?" But the mob roared even louder, "Crucify him!" **Matthew 27:22-23 (NLT)**

Jesus understands every weakness of ours, because he was tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin! **Hebrews 4:15 (CEV)**

Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb. Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it. His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow. The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint. Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying. And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you." The women ran quickly from the tomb. They were very frightened but also filled with great joy, and they rushed to give the disciples the angel's message. And as they went, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they ran to him, grasped his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Don't be afraid! Go tell my brothers to leave for Galilee, and they will see me there." **Matthew 28:1-10 (NLT)**

1. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST GIVES ME HOPE.

Praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is so good, and by raising Jesus from death, he has given us new life and a hope that lives on. **1 Peter 1:3 (CEV)**

For we don't live for ourselves or die for ourselves. If we live, it's to honor the Lord. And if we die, it's to honor the Lord. So whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Christ died and rose again for this very purpose—to be Lord both of the living and of the dead. **Romans 14:7-9 (NLT)**

Jesus promised, 'I AM the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, even though they die like everyone else, will live again. **John 11:25 (NLT)**

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be opened so that you may see and understand the HOPE to which God has called you! **Ephesians 1:18 (GW)**

...No eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard, and no mind has ever imagined, the wonderful things that God has prepared for those who love him! **1 Corinthians 2:9 (NCV)**

2. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST DEMONSTRATES GOD'S POWER.

The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you. **Romans 8:11 (NLT)**

Although he was crucified in weakness, he now lives by the power of God. We, too, are weak, just as Christ was, but when we deal with you we will be alive with him and will have God's power. **2 Corinthians 13:4 (NLT)**

3. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST PROVES GOD'S LOVE!

(God) "I have loved you with an everlasting love." **Jeremiah 31:3 (NIV)**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. **John 3:16-17 (NIV)**

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. **Romans 10:9 (NLT)**

Therefore, prophesy to them and say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: O my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again. Then I will bring you back to the land of Israel. **Ezekiel 37:12 (NLT)**