

# GOD'S STORY OF LIFE

## GOD'S STORY | AN EPIC OF LOVE

HAPPY EASTER!

CHRISTMAS IS THE PROMISE; EASTER IS THE PROOF!

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## HIGH POINT

- We have reached the high point of God's Story today as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- Jesus rose from the dead and everything in the story of God changes from this point forward.
  - *There was a man who visited his psychiatrist because his golf game had gone horribly wrong. His Dr. told him to play an entire round without a ball, and imagine the best.*
  - *(After a splendid round he met another patient on the 18th doing the same thing. They bet \$20 on the final hole. Golfer 1 hits 280 yards down the middle and so does golfer 2. Golfer 1 hits it, backspin into the cup- "I win"! Golfer 2 says, "No you don't, you just hit my ball!") How many people live like this? They just live in their own reality seeing things the way they want to see them! But what is reality?*

There are 3 realities that would not be possible except for the fact that Jesus rose from the dead:

- 1) We would not be saved
- 2) We would not be filled with the Holy Spirit and
- 3) We would not be the Church!

## THE PROBLEM

Without the resurrection of Jesus Christ, no one is saved from sin and death. We are all doomed.

God's Story began with sin and death.

- Before the world began Lucifer led a rebellion of 1/3 of the Angels in heaven. He wanted to take God place saying, "I will ascend to the throne."
  - *Rebellion is asserting our right to ourselves over and above God's right to our lives.*
- Before the world began God decided to create a loving family for Himself.
- After God made Adam and Eve and put them in the garden, He gave them one law; "Do not eat from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil"
- God told them that if they did it would bring death with it. Sin and death entered God's world.

## THE PROMISE

- **But God... but God would choose to win mankind back to Himself where man chose rebellion and sin.**
  - *God chose Abraham and brought forth Israel. From Israel came Moses and David and the promises through prophets of the One to come.*
  - *And on Christmas, Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Where Christmas was the promise, Easter is the proof! His birth was the beginning and His resurrection is the victory!*

## REALITY ONE | WE CAN BE SAVED

The Bible says that because of Jesus' resurrection that we can now be saved from sin and death.

*Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.*  
1 CORINTHIANS 15:22

*Since I live, you also will live.* JOHN 14:19

*Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.*  
JOHN 11:25

- Police were in a desperate search for a stolen VW. It seems the owner left a box of crackers on the front seat laced with rat poison! The police were in pursuit not so much to punish but to save life.

## REALITY TWO | WE CAN BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Bible says that because of Jesus' resurrection that we can now be filled with the Holy Spirit.

*"I will send you the Advocate—the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.*

JOHN 15:26

*And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago.*

EPHESIANS 1:13

- Because Jesus rose from the dead and returned to the Father, he is able to send us the Holy Spirit, and we are able to be filled with love, joy, peace and patience...

## REALITY THREE | WE CAN BE IN CHURCH

The Bible says that because of the resurrection Jesus would establish His Church!

*Upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.*

MATTHEW 16:18

*19 I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20 that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. 21 Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. 22 God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. 23 And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself.*

EPHESIANS 1:19-23

## HIGH POINT

And so, the resurrection of Jesus Christ Messiah is the high point of God's Story. Sin is forgiven, death is conquered and life is freely given in Jesus' name.