

# EASTER INVITATION: COMPLETE LIFE TRANSFORMATION

EASTER SUNDAY 2016 – MARCH 27

...the gospel God promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3 regarding his Son, who as to his human nature was a descendant of David, 4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 1:2-4

Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead (Easter) I can have...

1. PEACE.

**Romans 8:1** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, 2 because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

So, what does it mean to me in 2016 that one man died a criminal's death on a cross two thousand years ago? Think about it this way, "The weight of the world's sin was focused on Israel; the weight of Israel's sin was focused on the Messiah. And the Messiah died a criminal's death, with 'King of the Jews' written above his head. At that moment, God condemned sin. He condemned sin 'in his flesh'. He had cornered it and condemned it. As the prophet had said, 'the punishment that brought us peace fell upon him; and with his stripes we are healed' (Isaiah 53:5).

## 2. INDESCRIBEABLE JOY.

**1 Peter 1:8** Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, 9 for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

### 3. LIVING FAITH.

**Galatians 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

#### 4. PERSEVERING HOPE.

**Romans 5:1** Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. 3 Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. 5  
And hope does not disappoint us, because God  
has poured out his love into our hearts by the  
Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.



## 5. EMPOWERING LOVE.

**Romans 5:6** You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**Romans 13:8** Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law.

## 6. LIFE NOW AND FOREVER.

**Romans 8:9** You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness.

# INVITATION TO LIFE TRANSFORMATION...

## 1. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS MAKES IT POSSIBLE.

Matthew 19:26 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

2. **YOU MUST DESIRE IT WITH ALL YOUR  
HEART.**

Luke 10:25-28

### **3. COMING UP AT NEW HOPE**

- NEXT SUNDAY – HOPE FOR MY UNREALIZED DREAMS & UNSATISFIED DESIRES
- APRIL 10 – WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
- APRIL 17 – GOD'S SHOCKING METHOD TO GET ME TO GROW UP
- APRIL 24 – SURPRISE! HOW PAIN AND SUFFERING BOTH HURTS AND HELPS

## 4. OUR HELPER

**John 16:12** Jesus said, “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”

## 5. NEVER ALONE.

**1 John 1:3** We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ.