

# Because He Rose... We Rise!

Richard Hardy / General

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## This is the weirdest Easter Ever

What's going on?

What does it mean?

1. We are physically separated for our safety and because the government and health officials said it was the most important thing we can do to protect ourselves and those around us.
2. Precedents are being set that will change how we do things in the future.
3. Are these signs of the end times?
  - a. There is coming a day when it is simply too late. Is it today or tomorrow, who knows. The only thing the Bible says is..

**Matthew 24:36 ESV**

“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

- b. Enough has happened in history that His return can happen at any moment. and aside from the sorrow of those not CALLING ON THE NAME OF THE LORD being ushered into the second and worst death as Christians we cry out to

**Revelation 22:20 ESV**

He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

4. If there is a benefit, we must look at what is really important.

- a. If I had one more message to preach... one more truth to give, What would it be?

## This is the message.

1. Mankind was created Awesome.
2. Mankind was tricked and we blew it.
3. Mankind was rescued when Christ took all of our penalty when He died on the Cross
4. Potentially, if we believe in our hearts that God raised Jesus from the dead, AND we confess Jesus as LORD, we will be saved and BECAUSE HE ROSE..... WE RISE!!!

Because He Rose... We Rise

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Mankind was created awesome.

How do we know?

**Genesis 1:26–28 ESV**

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Originally, when anything in creation saw us they would be looking at a photograph of God.

1. He is creative... the fifth word in the Bible.
2. All of his creation is good.
3. We have dominion over all creation.

## Thoughts About Dominion.

1. When we think something is dominating us or we are dominating something, is because we have proven stronger, smarter, faster.... better than the dominated thing.
2. In the Garden we did not follow after Him because we were afraid or He was dominating us, it was because we knew Him.
  - a. We knew he created us and knew what was better for us.
  - b. We knew He loved us.... we probably couldn't articulate it, because there was no hate.
  - c. We knew He wanted to spend time with us because He made us to walk with Him
3. Some things to think about.
  - a. Judgment was not necessary because there was nothing to judge. There was not good or evil or even better and best.... All was absolutely perfect.
  - b. Peace wasn't even a thing we would desire because there was no chaos to challenge it.
  - c. Hope wasn't a thing we would even need to hold onto because there was nothing to be hopeless about.
  - d. We didn't need faith, because we communed with God daily. He gave us care. He gave us purpose. He gave us Love. Everything we needed and wanted was found in Him.

4. Can I proclaim to you, and may the power of the Holy Spirit drive this deep into your heart, God's deep desire is still to walk with you in the Garden?

## Mankind Was Tricked and We Blew It

1. We know the story... Gen 3 the Serpent shows up and tricks Eve, and Eve either through ignorance or deception... does the one thing God told them not to do.

### 2. The Command - Quick Theology

#### Genesis 2:16–17 ESV

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

- a. In dying you will die

Now I spent probably 4 hrs studying the theology of this passage. I could teach a long lesson on the simple vocabulary of this passage... send me a message and I'll do it. But when you study this out ... there is a double death in this statement. A different way to put it would be in dying you will die.

- b. Through the sin of Adam and Eve came death in 2 ways... physical (sickness, disease, injury, etc) and spiritually (loss of morality, doubt, fear, sin, and the results.... eventual hell).

### 1. eve said "Lest you die,

- a. When Eve responded to the serpent it was not what God said.

- i. double death was not included.. so she was either ignorant or chose not to see the strength with which God spoke.

- b. When the serpent responded, he strengthened Eve's misunderstanding by simply stating that double death would not happen. Not only will it not happen, but there is benefit.

## Whether by intention, ignorance, or simple unbelief

on that day humanity separated itself from God. That war goes on every day in every person.

1. Now we cry out for God's Love because we need it so desperately. And when we don't feel it or don't accept it on His terms, we find a substitute in temporary things that lead to death.
2. He still desires to be in perfect relationship but our struggle with sin separates us.
3. Judgment is now necessary between what is perfectly Holy and what is not.
4. We desperately seek Peace because there is nothing but chaos within us and around us.
5. We desperately seek Joy because the world is so filled with sorrow that flows within us and around us.
6. We attempt to hold on tightly to Hope and Faith and Goodness because there is so little of it left in the world.

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## Christ Took ALL the Penalty on Himself

**Isaiah 53 ESV**

Who has believed what he has heard from us? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon

him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away; and as for his generation, who considered that he was cut off out of the land of the living, stricken for the transgression of my people? And they made his grave with the wicked and with a rich man in his death, although he had done no violence, and there was no deceit in his mouth. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

DESCRIBE WHAT HAPPENED PASTOR.

AND HE DID IT FOR YOU!!!

**Can I proclaim to you, and may the power of the Holy Spirit drive this deep into your heart, God's deep desire is still to walk with you in the Garden?**

## **BECAUSE HE ROSE .... WE RISE!!!**

**1 Corinthians 15:55–57 ESV**

“O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**BECAUSE HE ROSE.... WE RISE!!!**

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1. Until He Rose, Sin was winning. but because he rose there is no more penalty.

**Romans 8:1 ESV**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

**BECAUSE HE ROSE.... WE RISE!!!**

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**Romans 8:31–39 ESV**

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Now we have challenges, but....

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**2 Corinthians 4:7–9 ESV**

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;

**2 Corinthians 4:14–15 ESV**

knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

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BECAUSE HE ROSE.... WE RISE!!!

Let us BELIEVE and CONFESS and RISE BECAUSE HE HAS RISEN.

Dear Jesus we thank you that you created us to be awesome. We thank you that you are not finished with us despite that fact that at times we run from you .

Dear God forgive us our sins. We give dominion to you Lord.. We believe that even now in the strangest Easter we have ever celebrated that you rose so that we can rise and be with you. We desire to draw near to you please draw near to us. In your holy Name we Pray ...

AMEN.