

Easter Sunday - April 17, 2022

Risen! Rejoice! Renew!

[Luke 24](#)

² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body.^{1a}

I have two favorite seasons, fall and spring. Each year I look forward to spring. I expect it; I know it is coming, but not always as soon as I would like. Many times the winter months can be dreary because there is not much brightness and it is cold.

Thoughts of spring bring to mind a line from a wonderful hymn “In the cold and snow of winter, There’s a spring that waits to be!” Spring brings excitement of new life! Beautiful blossoms, trees begin to bud, the birds sing a new song and the fragrance of spring fills the air with a freshness unlike any other time of the year! It makes me feel renewed!

I am reminded by Jesus that he brings new life not just to the earth but to each of us! All has been resurrected!

We read in Luke 24 about the women going to the tomb except they were not expecting anything but to find Jesus’s body. I am sure they were feeling extreme sadness and disappointment. They had followed Jesus. They had heard what he had told them about what would happen to him, but really did not understand until they found the tomb to be empty.

They were reminded by the two men, “Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again” (Luke 24:6-7). But then they remembered! They ran back to share the good news with the eleven and with all the others. **No longer sad and disappointed but renewed and rejoicing!**

We see something similar with the two men on their way back home to Emmaus. They were able to spend time with Jesus on their journey home. In their conversation with Jesus, they told him what the women had told them about the tomb being empty, but they still did not believe it to be true.

Their sadness and disappointment blurred their vision to the empty tomb and with whom they were walking and talking. Their eyes were opened during the meal they shared. Once they realized with whom they had been talking and sharing a meal, they immediately returned to Jerusalem to tell the eleven and others that Jesus has Risen and what had happened on the road and how he had been known to them in the breaking of the bread. **No longer sad and disappointed but renewed and rejoicing!**

The Savior is Risen! Be Renewed! Rejoice! Get up! Go! and share the Good News with all you come in contact. Do not let the trials and disappointments of life blur your vision. It is spring and you are a new creation in Christ!

***Prayer:** Beloved Father, Thank you for giving us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Remind us to share that same living hope with others all our days until we are resurrected to be with our heavenly Father. This day we Rejoice in the Risen Savior! Amen.*

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