

**SERMON
STUDY
NOTES**

**Prepared by
Pastor David Bellows**

Up From the Grave He Arose

He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed

1 Peter 1:3 NIV

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Matthew 28:1-20 NLT

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.”

God Offers Eternal Life Through Jesus, His Son

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John 3:5-6,7,16-17 NIV

.....no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. **You must be born again....** 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.

Why Must You Be Born Again?

Death means separation between two things.

Genesis 2:16 NIV

And the LORD God commanded the man, “**You are free** to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **for when you eat from it you will certainly die.**”

Genesis 3:1 NIV

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Genesis 3:2-3 NIV

The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and **you must not touch it**, or you will die.’”

Genesis 3:4-5 NIV

“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Satan’ MO: Method of Operation

Questions God’s Word

Denies God’s Word

Reverses God’s Word

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Genesis 3:6 NIV

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

Death means separation between two things.

Francis Schaeffer's Five Areas of Separation:

1) *Psychological Separation*

Genesis 3:7 NIV

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

2) *Spiritual Separation*

3) *Social Separation*

4) *Physical Separation*

5) *Environmental Separation*

An earthly dilemma which begs for a heavenly solution.

John 1:1-18 NIV

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and **though the world was made through him**, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive

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him. Yet to all who did receive him, *to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God*— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband’s will, but **born of God**.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, “This is the one I spoke about when I said, ‘He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’”) Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God, but **the one and only Son, who is himself God** and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

An earthly dilemma which begs for a heavenly solution.

Sin Demands Death, A Blood Sacrifice

Genesis 3:21 NIV

The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

Hebrews 9:22 NIV

In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Genesis 3:15 NIV

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

Romans 6:23 KJV

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus Paid It All

John 14:6 NIV

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Romans 5:19 NIV

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Jesus Sets Believers Free from Sin and Death

Romans 8:1-2 NIV

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has **set you free from the law of sin and death.**

John 10:10 MSG

I am the Gate. Anyone who goes through me will be cared for—will freely go in and out, and find pasture. A thief is only there to steal and kill and destroy. I came so they can have real and **eternal life**, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.

1 Corinthians 15:54-57 MSG

But let me tell you something wonderful, a mystery I'll probably never fully understand. We're not all going to die—*but* we are all going to be changed. You hear a blast to end all blasts from a trumpet, and in the time that you look up and blink your eyes—it's over. On signal from that trumpet from heaven, the dead will be up and out of their graves, beyond the reach of death, never to die again. At the same moment and in the same way, we'll all be changed. In the resurrection scheme of things, this has to happen: everything perishable taken off the shelves and replaced by the imperishable, this mortal replaced by the immortal. Then the saying will come true:

Death swallowed by **triumphant Life!**

Who got the last word, oh, Death?

Oh, Death, who's afraid of you now?

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It was sin that made death so frightening and law-code guilt that gave sin its leverage, its destructive power. But now in a single victorious stroke of **Life**, all three—**sin, guilt, death**—**are gone**, the gift of our Master, Jesus Christ. Thank God!

New Birth

1 Peter 1:3 NIV

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us **new birth** into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Where are You in Your Relationship With Jesus?

Have you come to faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?

Have you confessed Jesus as Lord of your life, with your mouth..... I believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, He is My Lord, He is My Savior and I Choose to Follow Him all the days of my life.

Where are You in Your Relationship With Jesus? You must Believe!

Hebrew 11:6 NIV

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

How do You come to Faith?

Romans 10:17 NIV

Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

John 3:16 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.

Have you Confessed Jesus Christ as Lord?

Romans 10:9 (NIV)

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Have you Repented?

Acts 2:36-42 (NIV)

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “**Repent and be baptized**, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (the indwelling of the Holy Spirit) The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” **Those who accepted his message were baptized**, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Have you been baptized?

Mark 16:16 NIV

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Matthew 28:18-20 NIV

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, **baptizing them** in the name of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit**, and teaching them to **obey** everything I have commanded you.

Are you already a Baptized Believer?

Do you Faithfully HONOR Jesus?

Matthew 24:13 NLT

.....the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Have you heard the message the word about Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away your sin?

Have you believed the message?
Have you repented and turned to Jesus?

Have you confessed with your mouth that Jesus is the Son of God and your Lord and Savior?

IF you have then you are ready to be baptized.

To be united with Christ..

1 Corinthians 6:17 NIV

Whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

Galatians 3:27 NIV

And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes.

Honoring Jesus to The End

Romans 14:8 NLT

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.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 NLT

And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to **know what will happen to the believers** who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers who have died.

We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever.

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If you would like to know more about becoming a Christian, please call our church office at 352-861-6182 or send an email to info@CCOMC.ORG

Small Group Study Notes

**Prepared by
Small Groups Pastor
Ray Westman
April 14, 2020**

Small Group Study

“Up From the Grave He Arose”

David’s sermon notes were very extensive this week. My suggestion for Small Group studies would be to listen to his sermon again, read through his notes and answer the following questions.

Read 1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Discussion Points: Notice a couple things in this verse; First, Peter’s first response upon understanding and telling us the importance of being born again is to Praise God. That should be our response too, and secondly our HOPE is in eternal life in a savior who conquered death itself and lastly our inheritance is incorruptible, we will live forever, Amen.

Discuss the implications of this and how it has changed your life.

Read Matthew 28: 1-20 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. 2 There

was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. 5 The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: ‘He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.’ Now I have told you.” 8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them. “Greetings,” he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.” 11 While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. 12 When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, 13 telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ 14 If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” 15 So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17 When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

With the above verses in mind, **reflect** upon these verses David used in his sermon:

John 14:6 Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Notice here that Jesus didn't say let me show you the way, He said I am the way. He didn't tell us to teach the truth, He said I am the truth, teach me and he didn't say you can obtain eternal life by doing this or that He said I am eternal life.

Pretty remarkable statement but easy to understand when we realize the only way, the truth and the life is indeed found in Him.

Romans 5:19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Discuss: This verse causes some to stumble, they think why should I have to pay for someone else's sin. But the answer is simple, just as sin and death entered into the world by one man... so has sin and death been destroyed by one man. David said Jesus sets believers free from sin and death, one man.

Read: 1 Peter 1:3 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Questions: Where are you in your relationship with Jesus, How have you come to faith in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? How do (did) you come to faith in Christ? Have you confessed Him as Lord?

Read: Acts 2:36-42 "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah. "When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise

is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Questions: Have you been baptized, why or why not? Have you heard the message and repented and turned to Jesus?

The last section of David’s sermon deals with being united with Christ.

Read: 1 Corinthians 6:17, Galatians 3:27, Romans 14:8 and;

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17 Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. 14 For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. 15 According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them

in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

If this is your first time using the sermon notes provided for small group studies they are the same notes you would receive as a Small Group teacher. As you can see, they are easy to read, self-explanatory and they will allow you to teach a small group anywhere at any time.

If you would like to know more about these notes, small groups and teaching opportunities just give me a call. Ray Westman 352-208-9023, or Email me at: ray@ccomc.org

R. Westman April 14, 2020