

“FREEDOM”

What God Did for Us in Just 3 Minutes

The resurrection of Jesus proves that we are free from this world and will enjoy a blissful eternity with the God of the universe.

Matthew 27:50-66

April 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday

“Make the tomb as secure as you know how ... otherwise his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first.” – Mt. 27:65b, 64b

1. THE CURTAIN...The Barrier Conquered – ACCEPTANCE

“The curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom.” – Mt. 27:51a

- No more separation from God.
- NO NEED TO FEAR REJECTION

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.” – Hebrews 4:16

“To all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” – John 1:12

2. THE ROCKS ... The Earth Conquered – LIFE

“The earth shook and the rocks split.” – Mt. 27:51b

- No longer limited by the confines of this earth.
- NO NEED TO FEAR DEATH

“Jesus descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead.” – The Apostles’ Creed

“For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” – Matthew 12:40

“The angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home – these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day.”
– Jude 1:6

3. THE TOMBS ... The Grave Conquered – LOVE

“The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.” – Mt. 27:52

- No longer held in captivity to the evil one.
- NO NEED TO FEAR HELL

“Jesus ... was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison.” – 1st Peter 3:19

“Jesus called in a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come out!’” – John 11:43

“You will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay.” – Psalm 16:10

“Having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.” – Colossians 2:15

4. THE CITY ...The World (System) Conquered – FREEDOM

“(Previously dead) holy people came out of the tombs after Jesus’ resurrection (and) they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.” – Mt. 27:53

- No longer crippled by the power of others.
- NO NEED TO FEAR THIS WORLD

“When Jesus ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.” – Ephesians 4:8, Psalm 68:18

“When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, ‘Surely he was the Son of God!’” – Mt. 27:54