

The Greater Light

The End Time Messenger

'... Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed Repentance and Baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that THE GREATER LIGHT might come to them'

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Happy Easter!

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“ But behold, the resurrection of Christ redeemeth mankind, yea, even all mankind, and bringeth them back into the presence of the Lord.”

Helaman 14:17



The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message
THE ASSURED WAY OF THE LORD, Inc.
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION FOR THE AMERICAS, AFRICA, ASIA, AUSTRALIA, AND EUROPE

Articles of Faith and Practice

1. We believe in God The Eternal Father, who only is Supreme; Creator of the Universe; Ruler and Judge of all; Unchangeable and without Respect to persons.
2. We believe in Jesus Christ The Manifestation of God in the flesh, who lived, suffered and died for all mankind; whom we own as our Leader, Witness and Commander.
3. We believe in The Holy Ghost, The Spirit of Truth, The Comforter, which searcheth the deep things of God, brings to our minds things which are past, Reveals things to come, and is the medium by which we Receive Revelation of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins and not for Adam's transgression, and that as a consequence of The Atonement of Christ "all little children are alive in Christ, and also all they that are without The Law. For The Power of Redemption cometh on all they that have no law; wherefore, he that is not condemned, or he that is under no condemnation, cannot repent, and unto such, baptism availeth nothing." (Moroni 8:22)
5. We believe that through The Atonement of Christ all men may be Saved by Obedience to The Laws and Ordinances of The Gospel; viz. : Faith in God and in The Lord Jesus Christ; Repentance and Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; Laying on of Hands for: (a) Ordination, (b) Blessing of Children, (c) Confirmation and The Gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 8:17), (d) Healing of the sick.
6. We believe in the literal second coming and Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ; in The Resurrection of the Dead, and in Eternal Judgment; that men will be rewarded or punished according to the good or evil they may have done.
7. We believe in The Powers and Gifts of The Everlasting Gospel: viz: The Word of Wisdom; The Word of Knowledge; The Gift of Faith; The Gift of Healing; Working of Miracles; Prophecy; Discerning of Spirits; Divers kinds of Tongues; Interpretation of Tongues.
8. We believe The Fruits of The Spirit to be Love, Joy, Peace, Long Suffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Faith, Meekness, and Temperance.
9. We believe that in The Bible is contained The Word of God; that The Record of the Nephites is an added Witness for Christ, and that these contain 'The Fullness of The Gospel.'
10. We believe in the principle of Continuous Revelation; that The Canon of Scripture is not full, that God Inspires men in every age and among all people, and that He speaks when, where, and through whom he may choose.
11. We believe that where there are six or more regularly Baptized members, one of whom is an Elder, there The Church exists with Full Power of Church extension when acting in Harmony with The Law of God.
12. We believe that a man must be Called of God by Revelation and Ordained by those having Authority, to enable him to Preach The Gospel and Administer The Ordinances thereof.
13. We believe in the same Church Organization as existed in the time of Christ and His apostles. The highest office in The Church is that of an Apostle, of whom there are Twelve, who constitute Special Witnesses for Jesus Christ. They have The Missionary Supervision and The General Watch care of all The Churches.
14. The primary function of The General Church, of which each Local Church is a component part, is Missionary and the building up and extension of The Kingdom of God in all the

world.

15. We believe that Local Churches should govern their own affairs and that General Church officials should not dominate or interfere therewith. On invitation such general officers may, with propriety, give counsel and assistance. Local congregations are subject to The Articles of Faith and Practice and must be governed thereby.

16. We believe The Church of Christ comprehends The True Brotherhood of man where each esteems his brother as himself and wherein The Divine Command to 'love your neighbor as yourself' is demonstrated by the prevalence of social equality.

17. We believe that all men are Stewards under God and answerable to Him not only for the distribution of accumulated wealth, but for the manner in which such wealth is secured. The primary purpose of Stewardship is not the increase of Church revenue or the mere contribution of money by those who have to those who have not, but to bring men to a realization of The Common Fatherhood and the universal brotherhood of man in all the affairs and expressions of life, and to maintain such social adjustments that each may enjoy The Bounty and Gifts of God, and be free to exercise his talents and ability to enrich the life of all.

18. We believe that men should labor for their own support and that of their dependents. Ministers of The Gospel are not absolved from this responsibility, but when Chosen or Appointed by The Church to devote their entire time to Missionary Work, their families are to be provided for out of General Church fund. The Admonition of Christ that The Ministry should not provide purse or scrip for their journey, but go Trusting in God and the people, is applicable.

19. We believe that the temporal affairs of the General Church are to be administered by The General Bishopric under the supervision and direction of the general conferences of The Church. The temporal affairs of The Local Churches shall be Administered by local Bishops under the supervision and direction of the local congregations.

20. We believe that marriage is Ordained of God, and that The Law of God provides for but one companion in wedlock for either man or woman. In case of breach of this covenant the innocent one may remarry.

21. We are opposed to war. Men are not justified in taking up arms against their fellows except as a last resort in defense of their lives and to preserve their liberty.

22. We believe in The Literal gathering of Israel, and in The Restoration of The Ten Lost Tribes.

23. We believe a Temple will be Built in this generation, in Independence, Missouri, wherein Christ will Reveal Himself and Endow His Servants whom He Chooses with Power to Preach The Gospel in all the world to every kindred, tongue and people, that The Promise of God to Israel may be Fulfilled.

24. We believe that a New Jerusalem shall be Built upon this land 'unto The Remnant' of The Seed of Joseph. (Ether 6:6-8; III Nephi 10:17), which city be Built, beginning at The Temple Lot.

25. We believe The Ministry and Membership should abstain from the use of tobacco, intoxicating liquors and narcotics and should not affiliate with any society which administer Oaths or Covenants in conflict with The Law of God, or which interfere with their duties as freemen and citizens.

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Message 53:3, 'Give ear, Oh ye people of the earth. Hear The Warning today. I speak The Words and Will of The Lord. Let all have Faith. Turn to The Lord and obey His Commands. Heed repentance and baptism that The Way of The Lord shall be among men. His Kingdom shall fill the whole earth. The hands must be laid upon all that **THE GREATER LIGHT** might come to them.'

Message 53:10, 'Yea, I have brought a Warning and few prepare for **THE GREATER LIGHT**, but be thou Faithful even all who hear, for The Lord's Will shall be fulfilled in all things. All have their work to do and the day comes when The Lord shall breathe upon The Chosen and they shall do His Work in Mighty Power for their love toward the brethren. All that

offend and that do not keep His Commandments shall not be His in the Last Day. Moreover, it is Christ's Words that shall judge all men.'

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It is the agreement of *The Quorum of Twelve of This Church*, that no Minister is to Ordain any man into *The Ministry* until said candidate has with all his heart and soul confessed he agrees with everything written in *The Articles of*

Faith and Practice.

It is each Elder's duty to Seek Guidance from and to keep The Territorial Apostle informed of his works in the region he is laboring.

Secretary For The Twelve

FOREWORD

THE GREATER LIGHT, the official publication of *The Church of Christ With The Elijah Message, The Assured Way of The Lord, Inc.*, comes to YOU as an expression of the Hope we have in Christ.

In its pages are found the thoughts and expression of a united people, whose only aim is to promote *The Cause of Christ* by spreading abroad to every nation, tongue and people, *The True Gospel of Christ* that through Obedience to His Laws we might be found worthy of *Eternal Life*.

In this publication, *The Record of The Nephites* is quoted many times. This Book was Revealed and Translated by *The Gift and Power of God*: the year 1829 marked the beginning of *The Restoration of all things*. It is a history of the people who once lived in the region around *The Great Lakes*, some of whom are Ancestors of The American Indians. Though it contains a Record of two other groups of people who once lived here, it is for the most part a Record of The People of Nephi.

The Messages so often mentioned in this publication are Messages from The Lord, brought to earth by His Chosen Servant, John The Baptist, who comes to earth in a Glorified Body to finish The Work given to him of God; that of Restoring all things (Matthew 17:11-13). The Angel first came in 1829, and Restored *The*

Authority Of The Son Of God, that *The Church of Christ* might be Established as in The Days of The Apostles.

In 1927, The Angel Messenger again appeared, and on numerous subsequent visits, has brought to us *The Word Of The Lord* that *The Church of Christ* might be set in Order, that a people might be Prepared to be *The Bride Of Christ*. This is *The Elijah Message* so many have looked for, *The Midnight Cry* has been Proclaimed, *A Warning of Destruction*, but to *The People Of The Lord*, a Message that Christ's soon Coming is near at hand. Fear God and give *Glory to His Name*, for *The Hour of His Judgment* has come. Awake thou that sleepest and Arise from the dead, and Christ will give you *Light*.

We hope that whosoever reads these pages might make it a matter of Prayer and Fasting in Humility before God, that they may know for themselves, that God has again Spoken and Revealed *His Will* from Heaven. To this end, we Dedicate *The Greater Light*.

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Thank You!

Twenty Second Message

The messenger came to me at my home, 441 Rural Street, Port Huron, Michigan, at 7:25 PM, and left at 8:40 PM, July 29, 1930.

1. "Satan has delayed me three days in coming to you with the message I will give you. Write it, and send it to the world.

2. Remember, Satan has great power. He has in throwing himself in the minds of the people by the traditions he has planted in the hearts of the all men, and the pleasure of the world, and pride; so that he has the controlling power among those that claim to love the Lord. Be not deceived by him.

3. I come to remind you of the warning I have brought, and this warning is to all people.

4. As you read the message I have brought, read the words of Christ and the prophets, for the same Lord has spoken. I come from the presence of the Lord your God. I have brought in his message, a warning to all people, and nations. Change them not, for the Lord has sent them. You have been entrusted therewith. See that no man change them.

5. Fear not man, for he is as the grass of the field, here today and gone tomorrow. Fear God and keep his commandments, and it will be well with thee. The people must be warned. Take this message to the Jew and to the Gentile, for the time has come when the gospel must go to the Jew and to Israel as a people, for they will again go to the land that God promise to them, and the covenant he made with Abraham.

6. For all must stand before the judgment, to receive as their works shall be, and all shall have a chance to save

themselves from the wrath to come, for the prophet Daniel spoke of this day and the things that shall come to pass.

7. Man will say, 'Oh that these things were hid from me, for my heart burneth within me, and my bones are weak. What next will be that shall come to pass?'

8. Some will say, 'How shall I know that this is of God?' Have you not read the prophets of old? Did Jesus not tell you of these things that you see? For the Lord has spoken and sent me with the message as in the days of Noah. Will you heed his words? Or will you reject it as in the days of old?

9. Verily, verily, the Lord has spoken, and it shall come to pass. It will be well with him that will follow his words in time of trouble; but sad will be the hearts that will follow their own way, and will say in their hearts, 'these things will never come to pass.'

10. Let those that come to the church of Christ come in humility, and prepare themselves to work in love, for God wants a humble people, for great is the work that is before you.

11. Four thus the Lord commanded me to instruct you in all things, that you might send the warning to the people. Verily, verily, it is expedient that the gospel be taken to all nations and people, and a warning of Christ's coming. Many things will come to pass, for the Lord God has spoken, and has sent me as his messenger to prepare the way before him.

12. For the Lord Almighty will stretch forth his arm and will scourge the nations. Repent ye, for your wickedness has come up before the Lord your God; for the Lord will cut short the time in righteousness, for there shall be wars, and plagues, and the destruction will come, for the Lord will

humble the people that they may inquire of him, and walk in his ways.

13. Young men will suffer, and children will be fatherless, and women will weep for husbands, and all the world will lament and weep, and the rich will howl when their riches will fade away, yet Satan will work for he knows his days are short.

14. Remember: Zion shall not be moved out of her place, nor Jerusalem from her former dwelling place, for the Lord made a covenant with Israel at Horeb, and he will gather his people that are obedient in their land. And their cities shall again be cleansed and righteousness shall again be in its borders. And the Lord shall remember them, and they shall accept Christ as their Savior and the Gospel as their law forever.

15. And this nation shall be cleansed, and then shall it be Zion, for the Lord will bless this land and the people that will keep his commandments and walk in humility before him. But the heady and high-minded he will visit with destruction, and those that have robbed the widow and fatherless, and have taken that which is not their own.

16. For there are those that have taken that which is not theirs, they have polluted the land with their unrighteousness, they have filled their hearts with vanities and unbelief, they have sought their own glory, therefore the Lord will not accept their offerings, and will not hearken unto their prayers, save it be a few who are humble before him.

17. Behold, they have taken that which is not their own; they have lied that they might get gain; they have taken from the aged, and they were not part with their substance to feed the poor and needy, but they have taken the widow's mite in unrighteousness, and have used it for their

pleasure, and the gospel work they have treated as naught, yet they have said, 'We love the Lord.'

18. Oh man, thou that profess the name of the Lord, remember the eyes of the Lord are upon you; you cannot continue in your unrighteous ways before the Lord your God who has created thee. He is long suffering and full of mercy, but he will reward thee as thy works will be.

19. There are those that have robbed the Lord of one tenth of that which was the Lord's. They have taken it for their pleasure, and have said in their hearts, 'This is mine,' hearken unto me, says the Lord your God, all that thou hast I have given thee, and I shall require one tenth thereof, that the poor that are poor indeed may be fed; that the gospel might be preached, and the kingdom of God might be established on earth in its fullness, and the church set in order in its completeness.

20. I have come to you to exhort you; to instruct you; to bring to you the words and instructions of the Lord; that all people may understand more clearly the words of the Lord, and the things that shall come to pass; for I am the messenger of the Lord, to prepare the people for his coming, and a place to come to; to set the church in order, and to instruct the people in humility that they may prepare themselves for his coming, for the Lord will bless those that will do these things he commands.

21. I have been sent to you, for you are of the seed of Abraham, and the Levites, thine forefathers, have ministered in the house of the Lord. Be thou humble, isolate yourself from the business world that you might commune with the Lord your God, for this is a day when trying times will come upon the earth.

22. Instruct the people as they shall come to you, to be humble and full of love; save your strength as I told you, or your time will be short.

23. I will come to you from time to time to bring light; to direct; to help; and instruct the people of the Lord; to warn the world, that none will have an excuse at the last day. Amen.”

Notes: Twenty Second Message

Monday, July 28th, 1930 was the hottest day for over fifty years in Michigan. I had been to Royal Oak on Sunday to assist Brother Dexter, and he and Brother and Sister Hart brought me home at 12:00 p.m. that night.

On Monday, after the hot day, I lay down on the davenport to rest, and at 11:30 p.m. the Messenger sat beside me in a rocking chair; he talked with me for about 15 minutes; he told me he had a Message to deliver, and for me to isolate myself. He said Satan had great power, and that he (Satan) had delayed him three days with the Message.

After he left I could not sleep, I got up and got some cold milk to drink, and again tried to sleep; after a little I got up and went to the door and to my surprise there stood the Messenger.

We walked together down the sidewalk to Lapeer Avenue, about two blocks and talked about the things that are and will take place. He walked back with me to my house, but vanished as we got in front of the house.

Again I lay down on the davenport, and although tired and worn I could not sleep. I arose and went to the front porch and there was the Messenger again. Once more we walked toward Lapeer Avenue, and he again told me about the Message he had, and that he would remain until he could deliver it to me.

When we got about one block from our house he appeared in white apparel on each side of the sidewalk six rows of angels that seemed to be walking beside us. They were about two rods (11 yards) on each side ahead of us, and about four rods (22 yards) back of us. They were with us for a short time, and then disappeared. We walked to the Avenue, stood under the street light and talked.

Each time when we got to Lapeer Avenue, I tried to go over to my son's or Brother McPherson's home, but when I would cross the street to the east, the Messenger would vanish from my sight, and when I came back he appeared.

We again walked back until we came in front of my home and he vanished from my sight (I am not giving anything he told me.)

The next day, Tuesday, 29th I was burdened with this experience of the night, so in the afternoon I went over to the Church to be alone in prayer and in the evening when the rest had gone to prayer meeting I lay down to rest. The Messenger again came to me. He was with me from 7:25 p.m. until 8:40 p.m. He stood at my side until I had written the Message in full.

It covers two and one-half sheets typewritten, single space. This contains only what he told me to write, and nothing of our private talk.

- Otto Fetting
The Voice of Peace, August, 1964

From the Apostles

Statement of Faith

Eddie Lee

I generally wait cautiously before making a statement before the unchangeable eternal God.

Jesus Christ has a way by nature and charters integrity never changed his pattern of Hebrews 13:8. Malachi 3:6-7 “for I am the Lord, I changed not; therefore the sons of Jacob are not consumed. Even from the days of your fathers are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return it to you, saith the Lord of hosts. He said, wherein shall we return?” I never changed in the mouth of two or three witnesses.

Let every word I read, and discern and check the law of the prophet. The gospel of Christ compared past Angel messages and witnesses leading of the Holy Spirit (Romans 8 and I John 5).

I have considered the so-called last visitation. I agree with all statements of Brothers Yates, Mike and Richard. Especially those of Brother Jairus Yates that Norman Lyles claims he received from John the Elias. I reject and renounce messages 121 and 122.

With great sorrow and disappointment because I had great esteem and regard for Norman Lyles and his missionary works zeal.

Now with great sorrow I reject said message 121 and 122 said to be given by John the Baptist to Norman Lyles. I do not accept or believe they are from the Lord God.

This is another great stumbling block. Let all discern the will of God for himself.

Addendum

Forgive me Saints for not reaching out to you as I should have. The messenger of the covenant has come with a word of our Lord Jesus saying warning, a waking beloved.

He says, “Christ Jesus our Lord is coming soon.” (Revelation 6, Revelation 19, I Thessalonians 4, Message 1:5, Articles of Faith and Practice 6, and Message 86:58).

To the faithful read Messages 72:16 and 86:72. Let us forgive him be delivered. Unite and humility and truth and forgive the past.

Let us be about the father’s business and share this gospel everywhere possible. Everyone is a missionary in this greater work, the greatest outpouring of the Holy Ghost and the power near. (Messages 9:1-6; 79:22; 85:30-33).

Many miracles, healings and deliverance are very near (Messages 85:9 and 88:35-39).

Beloved, if you believe this today these words of truth will begin our great healing and deliverance, peace bitterness, anger, hurt feelings will come to your life. Mark 11:22-25 “And Jesus answering saith unto them, have faith in God.

23. For verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24. Therefore I say unto you, What things so ever ye desire, when we pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

25. And when you stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”

Article

Who Crucified Our Lord?

James Naslund

Why did they hate Him? Because all during His Life, He had been tearing the masks of false goodness from *nice people*. Exposing the evil of men and women who lived in accordance with the conventional standards of His time. Finally a time came when the accused could no longer tolerate His reproaches of what they were.

Our Lord was crucified by *the nice people* who held that religion was alright in its place, so long as its place was not here, where it might demand of them a change of heart.

The Cross of Calvary stands at the cross-roads of three prosperous civilizations as eloquent testimony to the uncomfortable truth that the successful people, the social leaders, the people who are labeled nice are the ones most capable of crucifying the Divine Truth and The Eternal Love.

The gravest error of the nice people in all ages is the denial of sin. Yet this is always a hopelessly illogical stand for any man to take. Even in the natural order, laws cannot be broken without disastrous consequences.

Gravity will help a man if he builds the side of his house straight and plumb. Disobedience to natural law brings punishment: astronomy reveals that now and then certain stars get out of their orbits;

as a penalty for that de-ordination, they burn themselves out in space.

It is a law of nature that the higher shall control the lower object in God's hierarchy. In the biological order, death is the domination of a lower order over a higher order. For death ensues when the vital forces no longer can integrate, in the interests of the whole being, those physical and chemical processes which go on continuously in the cells of the organism. Life has been defined as the sum of the forces which resist death, which prevent this revolution of the amoeba. Gradually, as we grow old, the process of life wears away the substance of the cells and diminishes the power of our various vital functions. Our chemical processes become more and more independence of the controlling vital forces; and their rebellion makes it increasingly difficult for the organism to harmonize their activities in the interest of the whole man. At that precise point, where there is a balance of forces in favor of the purely chemical processes as against the vital controlling powers, death ensues; the chemical processed, having achieved full independence, have been able to disrupt the integrity of the organism. Such is the history of all terrestrial beings.

In human life the hierarchy extends higher-there is a super structure above the physical, and the same great law applies here, too. For man is so made that when all is in order, the moral order holds supremacy over the instinctive and the physical. At that moment when the carnal gains mastery over the spiritual in a man-when the ego over-comes the social impulses, when the material dominates the ethical- a domination of a lower order over a higher order has occurred. Again, this

results in death- the death called sin. *'For the wages of sin is death'* (Romans 6:23).

Man cannot with impunity break the laws of his own nature; the punishment which invariably follows such attempts at rebellion may be most apparent in the psychological order. For example, it is clear that every self-centered person is a frustrated person. *Why must this be?* It is because frustration results when a natural longing encounters an insurmountable obstacle. Every natural longing, to find satisfaction needs to be turned toward an object; until that occurs, it remains a longing- an inclination for a certain sort of performance. But actualization of the longing can come only through something which is itself actual; the longing, as such, being a mere potency, cannot procure its own satisfaction. What does procure it is the object toward which the potency is ordained. As long as the person remains concerned exclusively with himself, instead of giving himself to the objective world of tasks and duties, such actualization cannot take place and frustration ensues. By violating the law of his nature man thus brings upon himself frustration and discontent.

Every man and woman alive experiences a sense of guilt when he or she breaks a natural law. *'Every guilty person is his own hangman,' also fearful for 'conscience.'* Both makes cowards of us all.' Instead callings in a fiction, it would be truer to call it a friction, a *'rubbing the wrong way'*. Guilt over un-admitted sins accounts for many of modern man's psychological ills. Yet it would be unsound to say that the moral factor is always behind mental disorders; for it is not.

The condition of despair induced by un-repentant sin often reaches a point where there is a positive fanaticism against religion and morality. He who has fallen away from The Spiritual Order will hate it, because religion is the reminder of his guilt. Husbands who are unfaithful might beat their wives who are faithful. Wives who are unfaithful might accuse their husbands of infidelity. Such souls finally reach a point where, like Nietzsche, they want to increase evil until all distinction between right and wrong is blotted out; then they can sin with impunity and say with Nietzsche, *'Evil, be thou my good.'* Expediency can now replace morality, cruelty becomes justice, lust becomes love, sin multiplies itself in such a soul until it becomes a permanent residence of satan, cursed by Christ as one of the whited sepulchers of this world.

Such is the history of a *nice person* who believes he never sins.

The *nice people* do not come to God, because they think they are good through their own merits or bad through inherited instincts. If they do Good, they believe they are to receive the credit for it, if they do evil, they deny that it is their own fault. They are good through their own good heartedness, they say; but they are bad because they are misfortunate, either in their economic life or through an inheritance of evil genes from their parents. The *nice people* rarely come to God; they take their moral tone from the society in which they live. Like the Pharisee in the front of the Temple, they believe themselves to be very respectable citizens.

Very harmful effects can follow accepting the philosophy which denies

personal guilt or sin and thereby makes everyone *nice*. By denying sin, *the nice people* make a cure impossible. Sin is most serious, and the tragedy is deepened by the denial that we are sinners. *If the blind deny that they are blind, how shall they ever see?* The really unforgivable sin is the denial of sin, because, by its nature, there is now nothing to be forgiven. By refusing to admit to personal guilt, *the nice people* are made into scandal-mongers, gossips, talebearers, and super-critics; for they must project their real if unrecognized guilt to others. This, again, gives them a new illusion of goodness: the increase of faultfinding is in direct ratio and proportion to the denial of sin. The *nasty people* do not like to gossip about the failings of others, because they are only too conscious of their own failings.

I could not believe that people close to me would be among those that crucify the Lord, but some do fit the ‘description’ of *the nice people*. We think that only those ‘labeled’ evil and most wicked would crucify the Lord, that is- murderers and bank robbers, etc. Wrong! The good next door neighbors are also the culprit. Whether we want to accept it or not, self righteous people of good report crucify the Lord.

Why do people today ignore God? Why do they not want Him? Why do they teach evolution now in the schools? Why do they seem so desperate to prove The Bible a myth? Why have they put Biblical Stories in with Fables? Why does everyone now turn to the Pope for their God? Why are churches uniting?

People have become settled with what they have and need no God. *How many today would have crucified Christ?*

Jesus was betrayed in the house of His friends, and His worse enemies were that of His own country. He further states that if they hate you, they hate Me first. This whole thing boils down to a mere handful of people who have become hated by humanity for Righteousness sake. Furthermore, anyone professing Jesus Christ is also appointed to affliction even extra affliction the closer it gets to the last day.

‘*The wages of sin is death*’ and at the last day, those on His Left Hand may seem relieved a little because at least they will all be together in that wrong place. But I assure you that Eternal Space has ample room to separate all those un-saved far from one another. There is NO CONSOLATION in outer darkness!

Footnote: *The German Philosopher, Friedrich Nietzsche: 1844-1900, believed in: “The Power to Will”- man’s ambition to reach the highest possible position in life; “God is Dead” in which he claims that the Christian God is no longer a viable source of any absolute moral principles; and the distinction between “Master and Slave Morality”- Master morality weighs actions upon good or bad consequences unlike slave morality which weighs actions upon good or bad intentions.*

Young Adults

Karen Wilkin

March and April are very welcoming months. They are the beginning of Spring. After a long winter, sunnier, warmer, better days are inviting and offer a ray of hope for much nicer weather, many more pleasant days. They also represent the “Renewness of Life”: tree’s begin to get new leaves, baby birds are being hatched, grass begins to grow, flowers begin to pop up after

resting all winter and little baby animals are being born from every species. The land awakens and new life and so much beauty resurrects after a long winter's nap.

However, there is a story that goes even beyond the welcoming of Spring. This story is found in the New Testament. This is a true story, a story of Pure Love and Sacrifice of a man named Jesus. Of course you have heard this story many times since you were just a little child. But what I want to discuss with you goes even deeper than just hearing the story.

Have you experienced the story? There is a time in our life that this story becomes far more than a story, but it becomes a Witness, a Testimony, a Miracle, a Personal Experience that will be profound in your walk with Christ. This story will become very emotional to you as you truly understand what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross. It will become "real" to you and have an affect on you like nothing else you have ever experienced.

While Jesus hung on the cross there were two other men also being crucified with him. One of these men had this very type of experience I am talking about.

Luke 23:39 "And one of the malefactors who were hanged railed at him, saying, If thou be the Christ, save thyself and us.

40. But the other, answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation?

41. And we, indeed, justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds. But this man hath done nothing amiss.

42. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom.

43. And Jesus said unto him, 'Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me

in paradise.'"

What a most enlightening, beautiful, exhilarating experience this humble man experienced this day. See, the one man thought with a carnal mind, just thinking and exclaiming if he be the Christ, then show us, show them, save us all. He wasn't humble in his request, but rather cocky and acted angry about it. He wanted to just show them all up. But then here you have the other man who was showing deep sorrow for his sins, expressing to Jesus He believed He was the Christ and right there on the cross, suffering and in agony, not showing malice or contempt, but in deep humility asked Jesus to allow him to come into His kingdom and Jesus seeing this deep, humble repentance and belief, said to him, "Today shalt thou be with me in paradise."

Do you see the difference in their attitudes? Even on the cross, suffering and dying Jesus taught us a lesson. Right up to the end He was teaching us.

In five verses do you realize the message that is given here? Do you fully understand why it all happened this way? Have you thought about how Jesus could have called *ten thousand Angels* to come and stop all of this? Do you understand in your heart, why He didn't?

His plan had to be fulfilled, at His expense, for us, for all mankind. Prophecy was being fulfilled right before their eyes. Believers and unbelievers watched, some with contempt in their hearts, some with sorrow and pain as they watched their Savior being so unjustly crucified. But they also knew it was not over for Jesus, but really just the beginning for Him as He would rise from the grave in 3 days and return to Heaven. His sacrifice was given

with so much love for His people. It meant Eternal Life was possible for those who loved Him, served Him and obeyed Him.

I chose these few verses out of the whole story because of the magnitude of its meaning. If you understand in your heart what really took place between Jesus and these two men, you have gained great insight into the true meaning behind it. It is tremendously deep. In the crucifixion story you have read about and learned about, “betrayal, sacrifice, humility, anger, heartache, longsuffering, abuse, denial, righteousness, evil schemes, unjust acts, pain, rewards, love and VICTORY!! Yes, victory, because when Jesus breathed His last breath, Victory was His!

Prophecy had been fulfilled as it is written. He gave His own life so we could be saved. This alone my friends are enough to tremble at those very words. Did it affect you in a humble way when you read this story and actually understood what it all really means? Did you tremble? Did you have tears come to your eyes at the very thought of what just happened? Did you find yourself wanting to kneel to your knees and seek repentance and give yourself even more to Christ? Did you feel God’s deep love in your heart once you realized this old, old story lives on and has an affect on all those who believe and accept Him as our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ.

When Jesus died on the cross, did you know He had you on His mind? Do you know that Jesus is stretching out his arms as far as they will go and saying to you, “I Love you this much”. He loves you so much He gave His life for you, yes you. He suffered through it all for you my friends. His death was not in vain. His

death meant Victory and all we have to do is Love Him back. Give Him our heart with full intent to serve Him, live for Him, be obedient to Him and show we love and believe in Him by our actions. He wants doers of the Word, not just talkers.

He wants us take up the cross and follow Him. Once you do, your life will never be the same. If you already have accepted the Lord and have been baptized, then greater things still awaits you as your faith and trust in the Lord deepens. The closer you are to the Lord the more the Holy Spirit will lead, guide and direct you and give you more experiences to obtain and enjoy and VICTORY will be yours too!

Luke 24:6-7 “He is not here, but is risen! Remember how he spoke unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

7. Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.”

May the true meaning and realness of this Easter Season fill your heart with love, joy, peace, happiness and blessings as you contemplate, think upon and ponder these things in your heart?

Your Friend in Christ,
Karen Wilkin

Junior

Thresa Ray

Dear Youth,

As we celebrate Easter I always remember these verses:

John 3:16-17 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17. For God sent not His Son into the

world to condemn the world: but that the world through Him might be saved.”

We are so blessed to have a God that loves us so much that he manifested Himself in the flesh- sent his Son, Jesus, to show us the way; how to live a good Christian life. If we follow in His footsteps we can resist satan. We can say no to evil and yes to good in our lives.

Jesus took upon the sins of the world, including yours and mine, when He died on the cross – so that if we believe in Him, give our hearts to Him and be obedient to Him, we may have everlasting life.

In John 15:12-14 Jesus is speaking. “This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

13. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down His life for His friends.

14. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.”

This is what Jesus did. He gave His life for us that we might believe, and have everlasting life in the hereafter. He suffered very much for us!

Jesus is not dead. After three days, He was resurrected! Jesus is alive!

Before Jesus was crucified, He had the ‘Last Supper’ with His disciples where He shared the bread and wine- sacrament. The bread representing Jesus’ body and the wine representing Jesus’ blood. Today, His baptized members take the sacrament in remembrance of Him. Through this, if we are repentant, God will forgive us our sins.

God is always here for us, just a prayer away. All you need to do is pray, talk to Him in ‘Jesus name’. Tell Him the concerns of your heart and your heart’s desires. He will listen and guide you, and do what is best for you.

Jesus told the disciples that when He goes to heaven he would not leave them alone. He would send the Comforter or the Holy Spirit to help and guide them. (and all of us)

John 14:16 & 26 “16. And I will pray the Father and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever.

26. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall teach you all the things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”

The scriptures tell us that the Father- God, the Son- Jesus, and the Holy Ghost are one. We cannot see Jesus now, but we believe by faith. The comforter or Holy Ghost is with us and can guide and help us through each day, whether we are sad or joyful.

The Holy spirit is what helps you to know and feel right from wrong. You may hear that small voice inside you telling you to do something or not to do something. That is the comforter guiding you.

Trust Jesus, pray and listen when the Spirit speaks to you. Praise God that He loves us so much!

Remember to study the scriptures each day even if you are busy! Make time for Jesus! Reading and studying will put the scriptures in your mind and heart. You will be able to remember them when you need them for encouragement or guidance! It will be much easier to resist temptations! Jesus is always there for you!

Love in Christ,
Sister Thresa Ray

Primary

Joy Draves-Dreher

What Does Easter Mean?

Matthew 27:33-39 “And when they were come unto a place called Golgotgha, that is to say, a place of a skull,

34. They gave him vinegar to drink, mingled with gall; and when he had tasted it, he would not drink.

35. And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots.

36. And sitting down they watched him there.

37. And set up over His head his accusation written, This Is Jesus, The King of the Jews.

38. Then were two thieves crucified with him, one on the right hand, and another of the left.

39. And they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads.”

Matthew 28:1-11 "in the end of the Sabbath as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchuer.

2. and, behold, there was a great earthquake; for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and set up on it.

3. His countenance was like lightning, and his remnant white as snow;

4. and for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead

5. And the angel answered and said unto the women, fear not; for I know that ye seek Jesus, who was crucified.

6. He is not here; he is risen as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

7. and go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee. There shall ye see him; lo, I have told you.

8. And they departed quickly from the sepulcher with fear and great joy, and did run to bring his disciples word.

9. And they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying All Hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worship him.

10. Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid; go tell my brethren that they go into Galilee, and there shall they see me.

11. Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and showed it to the chief priests all the things that were done."

It would be good to read all of chapter 27 if you have time to do so. It speaks of Jesus trial and ridicule and abusive treatment from the soldiers.

Jesus had to die and shed His blood so we could be brought back into relationship with God. He was the final sacrifice. It is by Jesus blood our sins have been washed away. Then through His resurrection (coming back to life), we too can be risen to new life in Him. When we come to the Lord, we are new creations. We have Jesus resurrected life in us.

Easter isn't at all about Easter bunnies and Easter eggs as such, though these things are nice to have at Easter time. I've heard it said that the Easter egg represents new life – as a chicken hatches from an egg. It is okay to enjoy chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs at Easter time, but let us not forget the real meaning of Easter.