Easter - resurrection morning 4/4/21

The precious blood of the Lamb

Introduction - Today we are celebrating Resurrection morning. Our Creator died for us. He totally paid our debt on the cross. Then he rose from the dead after three days and nights. He offers His love and forgiveness and eternal life to everyone. God longs for fallen humanity to be reconciled to him. Sadly, only some respond to his love, and his gift of pardon.

Remember, that Wonderful Man who died on the cross was our Creator. This is incredible. God the Father/ Son together created the universe. Later, when man went astray, and could not conquer his fallen nature, God the Son came down from heaven, entering the womb of Mary. Becoming both God and Man simultaneously.

As a man, Jesus Christ conquered sin.

He never yielded to sin, though tempted in every way as we are. Then he offered his life upon the cross, to totally pay our debt That wonderful man who died on the cross, was our Creator. What unspeakable Love. No words can describe this act of love.

He declared to all his believers, because I live, you shall also. Jn.14:19 What a wonderful hope we have, that we too can have a new body. Faithful followers will also be resurrected and have a brand new body. And have perfect peace and Joy for all eternity with Christ.

This is the true meaning of Easter, resurrection morning.
Our creator died on the cross to thoroughly pay our debt of sin.
Then he rose from the dead, and he lives forevermore.
And those who truly follow him Will Live forevermore also.

Let's do a little history here.

Jesus was crucified on the Jewish feast of Passover.

This Jewish feast of Passover started 1500 years earlier.

The Israelites had been in bondage in Egypt for several hundred years.

The Egyptians had imposed slavery upon the Israelites. Terrible bondage

Then God sent Moses to set the people free from bondage.

God executed 10 plagues upon the Egyptians.

The final judgment was the most important one.

God said, I'm going to send the death Angel throughout all Egypt.

But everyone who applies the blood of the lamb upon their door posts.

The death Angel will pass over you. You will escape judgment.

That's where we get the word — pass over.

God said, when I see the blood, I will pass over you. Ex.12:13

But every household that ignored the warning, died, was judged.

The Message is very clear. It is the blood of the lamb that saves us.

Jesus Christ is the lamb of God. His blood saves us from judgment.

John the Baptist declared; — Jn. 1:29, 1:36

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Anyone takes this message lightly, remains in their sins.

And is eventually judged by eternal death, in hell.

Jesus - Lamb slain from before the foundation of the world. Rev.13:8

Isaiah 53 - Whole chapter is prophetic of Christ's coming and sacrifice.

53:4 Surely he has born our griefs and carried our sorrows.

53:5 he was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities

53:6 we all like sheep have gone astray, turn every man to his own way

And the Lord has laid upon him the iniquity of us all.

53:8 he was cut off from the land of the living. He died.

Verse 10 - his soul was made offering for our sin.

This was a man who died, not an animal sacrifice. His soul an offering But in the same verse, it says he shall prolong his days. Resurrection.

Oh our wonderful Passover lamb! He totally paid our debt. But he rose again, and because he lives, we will live also.

This is what Easter is all about, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior. Our creator came to earth, became a man, and died on the cross.

All of this so that we could be reconciled, and have eternal life.

Amazingly, the spirit of this world does everything it can to deflect us from the real meaning of life, and of Easter. For example:
What has the Easter bunny to do with our Lord's resurrection.
Or chocolate Easter eggs?

Christmas - What has Santa Claus to do with The birth of our creator? What has Rudolph the red nose rain deer to do with our Lord's birth. Satan does everything he can to <u>distract</u> us from the real meaning of life.

Let's talk now about our Lord's sacrifice - the Shedding of his own blood

Blood speaks of life. Without blood there is no life.

Le 17:11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that makes an atonement for the soul.

Le 17:14 For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof:

Blood is a very important subject in the holy Scriptures. When Christ shed his blood for us, he was pouring out his life. Life is in The blood.

Let's talk now about what Christ's blood does for us:

What the blood of Christ does for us

- 1. Forgiveness through his blood
- 2. Sanctification through his blood
- 3. Made nigh by the blood
- 4. Peace through the blood
- 5. Continually cleansed by his blood
- 6. Our conscience is purged by his blood
- 7. We have boldness to enter the holy of holies by his blood
- 8. We overcome by his blood.
- 9. We are made perfect by his blood

Now, let's briefly explain each of these:

1. Forgiveness - Hebrews 9:22, Ephesians 1:7,

Hebrews 9:22 almost all things are by the law purged with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

Ephesians 1:7* In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Redemption - to be released because someone paid our debt

2. Sanctification - (set apart) Hebrews 10:10, Colossians 1:13

Hebrews 10:10* We are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (we are set apart for Him)

Col 1:13* Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

We are in a different kingdom. We are no longer the children of this world. We are the children heavenly kingdom, we have a new father.

3. Made Nigh - by the blood of Christ. Ephesians 2:13

Eph 2:13* But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. Wonderful access to God.

We can come close to God, and have wonderful fellowship with him.

Not only forgiven, but also wonderful fellowship with God

4. Peace - through the blood. Colossians 1:20

Col 1:20* And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself;

Php 4:7* And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

God wants us to have great peace.

Peace is one of the fruits of the Spirit.

Peace with God, peace with others, and no anxiety about life.

5. Continually cleansed - by his blood. 1 John 1:7

1Jo 1:7* But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. (A continual cleansing by his blood)
As we walk in the light, in the truth.

6. Our conscience is purged - by his blood. Hebrews 9:14

Heb 9:14* How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, <u>purge your conscience</u> from dead works to serve the living God?

Heb 10:22* Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience,

What is an evil conscience? It is guilt, condemnation, no self-respect. The Blood Christ can purge our conscience, and give a self-worth, and Self-respect. A good self Image. Not pride, but self worth.

7. We have boldness to enter the holy of holies - by his blood Hebrews 10:19 - Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus.

What a privilege - the blood of Christ has opened access to God's full presence. He wants much more intimacy with his people.

In the Old Testament, it was very limited access to God.

When Christ died, the veil in the temple was open. Great access to God

8. We overcome - by his blood. Revelation 12:11

Re 12:11* And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. We overcome Satan and his power because of the blood of the lamb. What Christ did on the cross enables us to overcome Satan. Listen to this promise:

Re 3:21* To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

9. We are made perfect - by his blood. Hebrews 13:20-21

Heb 13:20* Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Perfection is possible through the blood of the Lamb.

Let us appropriate all that the blood of Christ has made available to us. In Christ is the answer for every situation we face.

Let's Remember:

The salvation of Israel was the passover lamb. Egypt <u>rejected</u> the message of the blood, and died. Israel <u>believed</u> the message and lived. It is the blood of the Lamb that saves us from judgment. Paul said, "<u>For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us"</u> (1 Cor. 5:7).

He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (Jn.1:29). (It is interesting to note that when Christ came, He was crucified on the very passover day.) Upon partaking of the passover lamb, the redeemed were to get out of Egypt quickly. Christians also are to make a break from the world (Egypt) immediately.

Let us ask God to cleanse us of anything that's displeasing to him.

God bless you abundantly