**R895 Rumination for Mar. 20, 2022**

The **T**heme: **they are dead…but He is Alive!** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *O LORD our God, masters besides You…****They are dead****, they will not live;* Isa. 26:13-14, NKJV

 *He is not here;* ***for He is risen****, as He said.* Matt. 28:6, NKJV

The **T**hots:

Intro. The Masters/Leaders/Conquerors of Israel had all died. Only Israel’s True Master died to live again –

*But be not ye called Rabbi: for* ***One is your Master, even Christ****…* Mt. 23:8

***I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore****,* Rev. 1:18

1. **The Appointment with Death – All must Die. Heb. 9:27**

*And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:*

1. The **D**ivine **D**eclaration – Gen. 2:17
2. God’s **C**ommand: *Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it:*

*for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.*

1. Eve’s **C**onfirmation: *But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden,*

*God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.* Gen. 3:3

1. The **D**astardly **D**isobedience
2. The **S**erpent’s **T**wist of God’s Word: Gen. 3:4, 5

*And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:* *For God doth know that in the day*

*ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*

1. **S**atan’s **S**uccessful **T**emptation: Gen. 3:6

*When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes,*

*and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat,*

*and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

1. **D**eath **D**escended on All because of the **D**isobedience. Rom. 5:19
2. *…by one man's disobedience many were made sinners…*
3. *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin;*

*and so death passed upon* ***all*** *men, for that* ***all*** *have sinned:* Rom. 5:12

1. *For* ***all*** *have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;* Rom. 3:23
2. *The soul that sinneth, it shall die.* Eze. 18:4
3. *For the wages of sin is death…* Rom.6:23
4. *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:* Heb. 9:27
5. **Jesus’s Atonement in Death – He Died for All.** Rom. 3:24-25, NRSV

*the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, Whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by His blood.*

1. Jesus died for the Ungodly who were without **S**trength. Rom. 5:6

*For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.*

1. Jesus died for all **S**inners. Rom. 5:8

*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

1. Jesus **E**ven died for His **E**nemies. Rom. 5:10

*For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son.*

1. **Jesus is Alive – He Defeated All including Death! Mt. 28:6**

*He is not here: for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.*

*Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?* I Cor. 15:54f

1. Jesus **P**roclaimed that He would Rise Again – *as He said*.
2. As **F**orecast to happen in the **F**uture by **J**esus Himself:
3. *From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto His disciples, how that He must go unto Jerusalem,*

*and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.* Mt. 16:21

1. *And they shall kill Him, and the third day He shall be raised again.* Mt. 17:23; 20:19
2. As **F**eared by His **F**oes Mt. 27:63

*Sir, we remember that that Deceiver said, while He was yet alive, After three days I will rise again*

1. The Scriptures also **P**redicted Jesus to Rise Again – *according to the scriptures.* I Cor. 15:3, 4
2. *Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;*

*And that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the scriptures:*

1. *Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them,*

*Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day:* Lk. 24:45f

Conclusion: *I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore,* Rev. 1:18

*I am He that liveth, that liveth and was dead, (x2)*

 *And behold, I am alive forevermore.* C. R. Hurditch

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 895**

1. All Religious Leaders in the world throughout history, no matter how great or eminent, like all other people on earth, died! They might claim to live again by being born another creature or creation or in another form, but the fact is they died, never more to live as their former selves – fulfilling the statement of scripture, *“it is appointed unto men once to die…”* (Heb. 9:27). Death is the consequence and evidence of sin (*For the wages of sin is death,* Rom. 6:23; *the soul that sinneth, it shall die,* Eze. 18:4.) Hence, the only inevitable conclusion is that every living soul (and that includes all on earth throughout history) must be a sinner by virtue of the fact that one day he will die.

The only Person on earth and throughout history and in Time Who could ever claim to be alive physically after having died is none other than Jesus. Apostle Paul claimed in

1 Corinthians 15:3-9 (NKJV) – *For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.*

*For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*

Many atheistic scholars and agnostics had set out to prove that the above declaration was faulty and not true. It was not possible that Jesus could have died and risen again and that the witnesses who testified to the above could be real and what they witnessed valid, had themselves, later, in all honesty and sincerity turned to believe in what they set out to prove false. They had no other choice but to conclude that the evidence for a truly resurrected Jesus was indeed valid and irrefutable.

A case in point is… **LEE STROBEL**

**See:** <https://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/an-atheist-investigates-jesus-to-disprove-the-resurrection/>

***AN ATHEIST INVESTIGATES JESUS TO DISPROVE THE RESURRECTION***

*Lee Strobel, a former investigative journalist, sought to debunk the claims of Christianity*

*but his research led him down an unexpected path…*

***What I had to conclude***

*Disproving the Resurrection wasn’t easy! In fact, it was impossible. My research caused me to*

*realize: The case for the resurrection of Jesus is powerful and persuasive. That evidence led me to*

*my own faith in Christ, and in the years since that investigation, I’ve been helping other*

*Christians understand how we can have confidence in the biblical accounts of the Resurrection.*

The fact that today all still die is sufficient testimony to the scriptural claim that all have sinned and the wages of sin is spiritual death which is judgement in hell.

Hebrews 9:27 - *And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment*

Romans 3:23 - *All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

Romans 6:23 *- For the wages of sin is death;*

 *but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*.

While it is true that all have sinned and are awaiting judgment for their sins, the fact that Jesus, the Holy Son of God, had paid for our sin in His atoning death and that God had raised Him from the dead, and that He is now alive and offering God’s Gift of salvation and eternal life to all, it must be true. Let us believe it.

Why is Jesus being Alive so important to you? **REFLECT**

1. *He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Christ Jesus lives today
He walks with me and talks with me Along life's narrow way
He lives (He lives), He lives (He lives), Salvation to impart
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart* Alfred H. Ackley

Can you sing and testify to the above in all sincerity? **REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:** All Die; Jesus Lives; hence, I Shall Live!