

**RESURRECTION
PROGRAM 1 (#910061)
WEEK 1 (910315)
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SERIES: Resurrection

TITLE: Program 1 - Resurrection Peace For Every Situation Of Life

MONDAY

OPEN

Are those red eyes, my dear? Have you been weeping? Why are you weeping dear Woman? And you, Sir, your lip looks swollen. You've been biting your lip. You're hurting, aren't you? You're trying not to cry. O Beloved, male or female, young or old, I want to talk to you about resurrection peace, resurrection peace for every situation of life.

PART ONE

We wish life were different. But we have to admit that sorrow is a part of our life. It's not what I planned, it's not what I wanted and it's come in the most unexpected forms and in the most unexpected times. And it has hurt badly. The question is if we are, in a sense, born for sorrow because of the world that we live in and because of the times that we're living in, how do we get through that sorrow? How do we live in the midst of conflict, in the midst of turmoil, in the midst of confusion, in the midst of disappointment,

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in the midst of discouragement, how do we do it and yet survive. I don't want to just survive. I don't want to be there just simply hanging on by my fingernails. Rather, I want to move through life with a sense of peace, with a sense of calm, with a sense of quietness. And the Bible talks about, in confidence and in quietness, is your strength. In righteousness you find strength. We find that Jesus was promised to us as a Prince of Peace and yet we want to know: where is that peace? Well, Beloved, we celebrate two holidays every year as Christians. We celebrate Christmas, the birth of the Savior. When the fullness of time came God sent forth his Son to be born of a virgin. And that holiday that is meant to bring so much joy, many times, brings with it so much sorrow. And it brings sorrow because there's conflicts, because there's conflicting relationships and with those conflicting relationships comes pain, comes memories, comes a sense of defeat, a sense of frustration. And then there's that holiday that's called Easter. And in Easter we're celebrating the death and the burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. You know, of the two holidays, Christmas is essential because Jesus was born to die. He was born to be the Savior of the world. He was born to take away our sins. But this holiday, if we really understand it that gets us through the trials, is the celebration not only of the death of Jesus Christ but of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. I want to talk to you for these next few days about "resurrection peace." How you can live through every situation of life, in peace, no matter how great the conflict, no matter how bad the pain. I want to say to you why are you weeping, whom are you seeking? And I want to take you from there and show you that you can have "resurrection peace." That you can make it, Precious One, through any trial, any conflict, any disappointment, any discouragement of life. When we celebrate Easter we so often focus on our clothes. We focus on this new garment that we're going to buy and we're going to put on. Sometimes it's the only time that a family goes to church together. And so we kind of get dressed up and we celebrate that. Now I've got to tell you that we used to get

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dressed up far more for Easter than we do now, but why this sense of newness? Well why does it come in the spring when we think of life coming the from the earth and the deadness of winter is over and the daffodils are out and the crocuses have popped and the trees are in bloom? I think it's because we all like a new start. We all like a new beginning. We like brightness in our life and not darkness. So the days are longer, they're warmer, they're sunnier. And so I think God planned all of this. We don't know the real date of Jesus' birth. But we do know the time of the death, the burial and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, because it all happened around a feast, a feast that the Jews celebrated every single year. It was called the Feast of Passover. And it was during this Feast of Passover that Jesus was put to death that Jesus became the Lamb of God who was to be slain for your sins and my sins. And so many times what we do is we focus on the death of Jesus Christ and we miss the impact of the resurrection. I want to talk to you about resurrection life. I want to talk to you about "resurrection peace." It's the answer to Woman or Sir, why are you weeping and whom are you seeking? I want us to go to John chapter 19. And I'm really excited about these days that we're going to have together looking at this resurrection peace and the reason I'm excited about it is, first of all, I believe that it can put a new dimension into your celebration of Easter. But I believe, also, that it can bring a new dimension to your celebration of life day in, day out if you will understand all that was given to you, all the was wrought for you, all that was won for you in the resurrection of Jesus Christ when God shattered hell and brought forth Jesus Christ, when he brought him out of the grave, so to speak, and there he was, the resurrection and the life, just as he said. Oh can you imagine what it meant to those disciples. Those disciples that had stood at the foot of the cross, those disciples that had heard Jesus as he was on that cross cry out, "...**Eloi, Eloi, Lama Sabachthani...My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?**" (Mark 15:34b) To remember and watch him say that he was thirsty, to see that sour wine put up for him to be

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able to taste and for him to turn his head and then finally to say, “[Tetelesti!] **It is finished...!**” (John 19:30a) I want to take us to John chapter 19 and what we’re going to do is we’re going to get some good, solid Bible teaching which is absolutely essential so that you will have a foundation of truth, so that you will understand what this “resurrection peace” is, so that you can have peace unto you in any and every situation of life. So will you open your Bibles with me and go to John chapter 19? In John chapter 19 and verse 30 it says, “**Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, ‘It is finished!’....**” (John 19:30a) It is finished is “tetelesti” in the Greek. And “tetelesti” means “it is paid in full”. And what he was saying is I have paid for man’s sins in full. My work is finished. He was the Lamb of God that was sent to die for the sins of all mankind. And that’s what he did. He accomplished his purpose. “**...He said, ‘It is finished!’ And [then] he bowed His head and [he] gave up his spirit.**” (John 19:30b) “**...He bowed his head, he gave up his spirit.**” He would say, earlier, no man is taking my life from me, I am laying it down. And, Precious One, what I want you to know and I want you to understand that no matter who you are, no matter what you’ve done, no matter where you’ve been, he gave up his spirit, he gave up his life for you. When you were his enemy, when you were hopeless, when you were helpless, when you were without God, when you were in rebellion to God, when you were walking your own way and doing your own thing this is what Jesus did. Jesus gave up his life for you when you were at your very, very worst. And if you can begin to understand that and understand that the death of Christ was for your sins then you’re going to understand that the resurrection of Christ was for your life. And this is what we’re going to see. I’m so excited about teaching you this. Now let’s go on. It says, “**Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies [might] not remain on the cross on the Sabbath....**” (John 19:31a) Remember we celebrate the death of Jesus Christ on Friday. We call it Good Friday and we call it Good Friday because it was good Jesus

paid for our sins. Well the Sabbath is coming and the Sabbath begins Friday evening and goes to Saturday evening. That is the Sabbath. And so because it was the Sabbath that was coming and they were preparing for the Sabbath. They had to get the bodies off the cross then. And so this is what it says.

“...So that the bodies would not remain on the cross...(for that Sabbath was a high day), [so they] asked Pilate that their legs might be broken...that they might be taken away.” (John 19:31b) Now why break the legs? Well what you have to understand is when they crucify a person and that cross is really not terribly high. But when they crucify a person and they jack their legs and they drive a nail, a spike through their ankles with their knees in a flex position, because they want crucifixion to be a torturous death. And so what they do is they want them to die slowly. And so as they hang there, because their muscles are in a kind of paralysis from the weight and they're unable to exhale, what they do is they push up their body from that nail with their knees, straighten them out so that they can exhale so that they can keep breathing. It's a natural thing that the body does. And then they come back. So they wanted to hurry the death of these men. And in hurrying the death of these men the way they would it is simply come along and hit that leg and break that leg so that they could not push up so then they would suffocate. So this is what they were doing. Now they were crucifying more than one person on that day. **“So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who was crucified with Him...,”** with Jesus, **“...but coming to Jesus, when they saw...He was already dead, they did not break His legs.” (John 19:32-33)** Remember he said, **“...‘It is finished’...and [he] gave up his spirit.” (19:30b)** And they didn't break his legs. What if they had broken his legs? We'll talk about it when we come back.

PART TWO

As I stop and think about that day, that pivotal day in history, when Jesus paid for your sins and my sins, I think, oh, if they had broken his legs you and I would have known that he was not the Savior of the world. He never would have risen from the dead because only the Son of God could rise from the dead. And only that way could you and I have resurrection peace. Well let's look and see what it says. And it says, **“But one of the soldiers....” (John 19:34a) “...They did not break his legs.” (19: 33b)** Verse 34 of John chapter 19 where we look at the account of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ so that you, Beloved, can have resurrection peace. **“But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.” (John 19:34)** Now the fact that blood and water came out showed that his heart had ruptured. Jesus died of a broken heart. Your sin and my sin that breaks our heart, that breaks the heart of other people, that causes conflict and chaos and disappointment and discouragement and defeat and life, what breaks our heart, broke his heart. He has a heart that can taste and feel your pain, Precious One. And so blood and water came out. And it says, **“And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true....” (John 19:35a)** John the Apostle is writing this. And he's saying, I saw it and I am testifying and I want you to know it is absolute pure unadulterated truth. This is what happened. You're reading an eyewitness account. But not just one eyewitness account, because there are others in Matthew and Mark and Luke. There's the eyewitness account of Paul, no he wasn't there but he knows and he tells what happened when Jesus Christ died and when Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. And it says in verse 35, **“...He who has seen [and] has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe. For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, ‘Not a bone of Him shall be broken.’” (John 19:35-36)** It was written in the Old Testament. It was recorded there. It was a prophecy that would help you identify who the

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Messiah, the Meshiach haMeshiach, would be, who the anointed one, the promised one, who the Christ would be. And one of the things that testified to who he was, was that not a bone of his would be broken. **“Another scripture says, ‘They shall look on him whom they pierced.’” (John 19:37)** When they put that spear into his side they looked on him. It says, **“After these things Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate granted permission. So he came and [he] took away His body.” (John 19:38)** After these things it says that **“Nicodemus, who had first come to [Jesus] by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, [and] about a hundred pounds weight. So they took the body of Jesus and bound it in linen wrappings with...spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews.” (John 19:39-40)** They would lay out the body and they would put these spices around the body and then they would wrap the body very, very tight. And then they had a separate cloth for the face. And then having bound the body they would lay the body in the tomb. Well it goes on to say, **“So they took the body... bound it in linen wrappings with the spices.... [And] now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had... been laid. Therefore because of the Jewish day of preparation, since the tomb was nearby, they laid Jesus there.” (John 19:40-42)** Now on the first day of the week, Sabbath was Saturday, it starts Friday night, it goes to Saturday night. It’s a high and holy day. No work, nothing is done. They’re not going to come near a tomb. They’re not going to come near a dead body. **“[But] on the first day of the week...” (John 20:1a)** on what we call Saturday evening which begins the first day of the week, which is Sunday, **“...Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and [she] saw the stone [that had been] taken away from the tomb. So she ran and [she] came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved...,”** this is John that’s writing it, **“...and said to them, ‘They have**

taken...the Lord out of the tomb, and we [don't] know where [they've] laid Him.' So Peter and [his] other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb. [And] the two [of them] were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first." (John 20:1b-4) It's John but he's not going to put his name there, but he out ran Peter. "And stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in...so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and [they] saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself. So the other disciple who had...come [first] to the tomb [when he] entered...he saw and [he] believed. For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead." (John 20:5-9) Listen that scripture and that resurrection fact is what's going to bring you peace and you'll see as we continue this series. But let's go back. "So the disciples went away... to their own homes. But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying. And they said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping...?' [And] she said...'Because [they've] taken away my Lord, and I [don't] know where [they've] laid Him.' [And] when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, [but she didn't] know that it was Jesus. [And] Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking...?'" (John 20:10-15a) Woman, Sir, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking? This is Jesus' question to you today. Why are you weeping, whom are you seeking? And what he's going to show you is that whatever the reason, whoever the reason, whoever you're seeking, that he's the answer and the answer comes in who he is and the resurrection. It says, "...Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said...'Sir, if you have

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carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.' [And] **Jesus said to her, 'Mary!'** [And] **she turned and [she] said to Him in Hebrew, 'Rabboni!'** [Rabboni] (which means, Teacher). [And he] **said to her, 'Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, 'I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"** (John 20:15b-17) What is this resurrection peace that you and I can have? This is what we're going to explore in the days ahead. But what I want you to know is it is for you. Jesus said I'm going to My Father and your Father. And because Jesus died for you, because he was buried, because he rose again from the dead, Precious One, all that "resurrection peace" can be yours and all that resurrection power is at your disposal if you will simply believe. Jesus is the Prince of Peace and you get him by believing in his death, burial and resurrection.