

**RESURRECTION
PROGRAM 4 (#910064)
WEEK 1 (910315)**

©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL



PRECEPTS FOR LIFE

a Production of

Precept Ministries International

P.O. Box 182218, Chattanooga, TN 37422-7218

1-888-734-7707/ www.preceptsforlife.com

The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

SERIES: Resurrection

TITLE: Program 4 - Resurrection Peace That Prepares You To Meet God

THURSDAY

OPEN

Have you ever been riding down the road and all of a sudden found yourself face to face with a huge billboard? It's black and white and that's all. And it says, "Prepare to meet your God." Preparing to meet your God is a matter of black and white. It's an absolute. The question is Precious One, are you prepared to meet God face to face? What happens to you when you die? You say, "I don't want to talk about it." Then you and I need to talk about resurrection peace that can be yours when you die and when you live.

PART ONE

Life; it's wonderful, isn't it? And we don't want to think about death. There are all sorts of views and theories about what happens when we die. But do you realize it really is a black and white issue? It's a black and white issue that is spelled out for us in a book of truth called the Word of God. And that's what this program "Precepts for Life" is all about. It's about learning

God's precepts for life, learning what God has to say and recognizing that when He says it it's a black and white issue. There's no gray. It's either according to the Word and it's truth or it's against the Word and it's a lie. We're looking at the message of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. We're looking at how important that message is. When we celebrate Easter we celebrate Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ, we celebrate Easter which is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Actually it begins in the week before the Sunday of Easter. We begin celebrating; some churches begin celebrating during the week. Some people have a period of Lent that precedes or comes up to the day of Good Friday and then that is followed by Easter Sunday. Good Friday is good because that's the day when God paid for your sins and my sins and all the sins of the whole world and He paid for our sins through the blood of His Son. **"For God so loved the world...."** **(John 3:16a)** ["God so loved you Precious Precious One, that He crucified His Son, He put His Son to death on your behalf so that your sins might be paid for in full and so that you might pass from death to life never to die again, so that He might give you His Son and with His Son who is the resurrection and the life, give you the gift of eternal life."] (PARAPHRASE, John 3:16) So that when you die, it's not really dieing, but it's passing from this life into the very presence of God where you hear, "Welcome home My child. Welcome home. Enter in to the joy of the Lord." Well we're looking at this resurrection peace. We started in John, when Mary went to the tomb to take care of the body of Jesus Christ and she couldn't find Jesus. But there were two angels there and ["They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' And she said, 'Because they've taken away the body of my Lord. They've laid Him somewhere and I don't know where He is.'"] (PARAPHRASE, John 20:15) She was weeping because she did not know about the resurrection. She did not understand that it was no longer a lifeless body lying there, but because He was the resurrection and because He was the life that He lived, never to die again. She didn't even recognize Him. She

thought He was a gardener when “[He] said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking...?’” (John 20:15a) Well as we studied John, we found out that when they understood that Jesus had risen from the dead three times. In John, He says, “...Peace be unto you.” (20:19b) “...Peace be unto you....” (20:21b) “...Peace be unto you.” (20:26b) In other words, [“I’m raised from the dead and you are at peace with God and you are at peace with death because the stinger has been taken out of death.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 20:19-26) So then in our last program we began to look at resurrection peace that comes because the stinger has been taken out of death. You see we used to be able to be intimidated by the fear of death we feared death because we didn’t know what would happen to us. But if we know and understand that death does not separate us from God, but death prepares us to meet our God if we know Jesus, if we know the One who is the resurrection and [“the life, the truth, the way and the life that enables us to come to the Father.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 14:6) Well we looked at that. Now what I want you to see in today’s lesson is I want you to see the message that went out after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, because it has to do with taking the sting out of death. So let’s open our Bibles to Acts, chapter 2. Now Acts, chapter 2 is the day of Pentecost. It’s the feast day that follows the Feast of Passover. And if you want to download this wonderful wonderful chart that is taken and used by permission of the “New Inductive Study Bible” you can download this chart. It’s at the end of the book of Leviticus if you have the “New Inductive Study Bible.” But it’s a chart that shows you the feasts. And what happened was Jesus was crucified on the Passover, at the Feast of the Passover. And then came the Feast of First Fruits and then that’s when Jesus was raised from the dead. The Feast of Passover, Unleavened Bread and First Fruits makes up the Feast of Passover. Or they sometimes call it the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And then what you have in the third month, fifty days after the Feast of First Fruits what you have is the Feast of Pentecost, “pente” being fifty.

And in was on the Feast of Pentecost that Peter was delivering the message in Acts, chapter 2, the message that is the message of life. So if you have an “Inductive Study Bible”, you want to turn to the end of Leviticus and look at that chart just so you can see when the Feast of Pentecost happens in relationship to the Feast of Passover or go to “preceptsforlife.com”, “preceptsforlife.com” and you can download that chart absolutely free and it will help you whenever you study the New Testament. Because when you study the New Testament, especially the gospels Jesus is always going to a feast. And so you can find out what feast He’s going to because all the adult males were required to go to these feasts three times a year. Well, as I said it was the Feast of Pentecost. And all of a sudden there’s a sound of this mighty rushing wind. There are cloven tongues of fire above their heads. And all of a sudden men begin to speak about the glories of God. But they’re speaking in dialects that they have not learned. And so as they speak in those dialects and they are literal dialects, literal known languages. It’s the Greek word, “dialektos.” All of a sudden they want to know what’s happening. And so Peter stands up and he delivers a message and he explains that **“...this is what was [prophesied in]...Joel...” (Acts 2:16)** when God is pouring out His Spirit upon men and women, young and old, free and slave. And this is what he says, **“Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know—this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and [you] put Him to death. But God raised Him ... again....” (Acts 2:22-24a)** It is so interesting. If we had time we would just sit down and go through the first six chapters of the book of Acts and we would mark in a very specific way as I’ve marked in my Bible every reference to the “resurrection of Jesus Christ.” So many times we just think about His death and we don’t realize that the peace comes not in His death but in His

resurrection. Because it's the resurrection that testifies to the work of the death of Jesus Christ taking care of your sins and my sins so that you and I are prepared to meet God. And I want to go back and just say this that it is Jesus who was delivered over. Now I want you to see this, **"...by [a] predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God..."** **"the predetermined plan ... [of] foreknowledge of God."** (2:23a) So what I want you to see is the death of Jesus Christ was planned by God. It has a purpose and that purpose is to bring peace between you and God. And this is what he says, **"But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death...."** (2:24a) I want you to underline that or highlight that. And if you're making the word, "death" as I do in my Bible with a black tombstone. I don't color it black. I just do the outline of a tombstone. Then you see every place that "death" is mentioned in the Word of God. And so you can learn a lot by marking it. And it says, **"...God raised Him up...putting an end to the agony of death...."** (2:24a) What is the agony of death? The agony of death is that you don't know what's going to happen when you die. You don't know what awaits you and that is agony. But if you're prepared to meet your God and you understand the resurrection and the peace that comes from believing in the death and burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ then death is has no agony. The stinger of death is gone because death is really for the believer an introduction into the very presence of God. And so this is what he says, **"But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power."** (Acts 2:24) In other words the grave and death could not hold Jesus. Now why couldn't the grave hold Jesus? Why couldn't death hold Jesus? Well it couldn't hold Him because Jesus and His death put an end to the agony of death by paying for our sins in full, which means when we're **"...absent from the body [we are present] with the Lord."** (2 Corinthians 5:8b)

PART TWO

The message that the disciples delivered to the world after the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ was called the “gospel”. It was good news for sinners because Jesus had paid for their sins in full. And the proof of the fact that God was satisfied that He had paid for their sins in full was the fact that God raised Him from the dead. Listen to what it says in Romans, chapter 4. It’s talking about the death of Jesus Christ. It’s talking about the righteousness of God that is given to us because we believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah who paid for our sins in full. So it’s talking about this faith being credited to us as righteousness. Righteousness is to be put in right standing with God. And so he goes on to say in verse 23 speaking of Abraham, **“Now not for his sake only...,”** not for Abraham’s sake only, **“...was it written that it was credited to him...,”** righteousness was put to his account instead of sin, **“...but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited....” (Romans 4:23-24a)** You and I can have righteousness put to our account and when it’s put to our account we’re no longer a debtor of sin to God because our sins have been paid for. So it goes to say, **“... it will be [cert] credited, as those who believe in Him....” (4:24a)** now listen carefully, **“...As those who believe in Him [Him] who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.” (Romans 4:24b-25)** Now what does he mean by that? He means this, that when Jesus was delivered for our transgressions, when He was nailed to the cross, when God took your sins and my sins and the sins of the whole world and placed them upon Jesus and Jesus who knew no sin was made to be sin for us, then God was able to give us His righteousness. Now how do we know that? Well He died for our sins. He was raised again from the dead because of our justification. **“Justification”** means that we have been declared righteous. It means that we have been put in right standing with God so that when you see a billboard that says, “Prepare to meet thy God,” you can say, “I am

prepared to meet God. And I'm prepared to meet God because I believe in Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ, as my Savior paid for my sins. And the proof that God was satisfied with that payment was that God raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand. Yes, I'm prepared to meet my God because my sins have been paid for in full." Now remember we're talking about resurrection peace. So watch what chapter 5, verse 1 says. It begins with a "therefore" and when you see a "therefore" you want to find out what the "therefore" is there for because it's a term of conclusion. It says in verse 25 of chapter 4, "**He...**" Jesus **"...who was delivered over because of our transgressions..."** our sins, **"...and was raised because of our justification. Therefore, having been justified by faith..."** having been declared righteous because we have believed in Jesus Christ. It says **"...We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." (Romans 4:25-5:1)** We have peace with God; it's the resurrection that brings peace to you and me. It's the resurrection that gives us peace so that when we are ready to die we don't fear death, but we welcome it as a friend because death is going to usher us into the presence of Almighty God. I want you to look in your Bible at Philippians, chapter 1. In Philippians, chapter 1 Paul was facing death. He thought that he might be put to death and he was eager to die. He wanted to die. He wanted to be in the presence of God. And yet he felt it was more needful for him to stick around down here on earth for the sake of others so that he could minister to them. And so when he's writing them he says, in verse 19, **"...I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ."** (1:19) Now we're going to talk later on about the Spirit of Jesus Christ because that's where resurrection peace comes from also. **"According to my earnest expectation and hope...."** (1:20a) In other words, ["I'm expecting something. I'm earnestly expecting it. I'm hoping in it."](PARAPHRASE, Philippians 1:20a) **"...That I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my**

body...,” now listen, “...whether by life or by death.” (1:20b) He says, [“I have one ambition and that ambition is that Christ would be exalted, seen for who He is in my body whether I’m living or whether I’m dying I want you to see Jesus.”] (PARAPHRASE, Philippians 1:20) And so he goes on to say this, **“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.” (1:21)** What do you mean “to die is gain?” He says, “Listen, this life ain’t nothing to be compared with the life that is to come. Living down here on earth cannot be compared with living with God in heaven.” You say, “But all my loved ones are down here on earth.” Well you’ve got a lot of loved ones I pray that have gone on to heaven. And not only that, Jesus is there. The Father is there. Your home is there. There’s no more pain. There’s no more sorrow. There’s no more tears. There’s no more death. I mean **“...this mortal... put[s] on immortality.” (1 Corinthians 15:53b)** That’s what death brings. Prepare to meet your God and click your heels, rejoice. Why is he saying this? **“For... me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do[n’t] know which to choose...I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, [which] is very much better.” (Philippians 1:21-23)** Have you got that? If you’re facing death, if you have Christ then dieing is very much better. He tells us in 2 Corinthians, chapter 5, verse 5 and 9 that **“...to be absent from the body [is] to be [present] with the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 5:8b)** Now the question is if you were absent from the body, if you face death, O Beloved, would you be present with the Lord or would you descend into hell? Would you go to that place of torment until the resurrection when you stand at the great white throne judgment of God and are cast into the lake of fire? **“...It is appointed unto [man] once to die [and] after [that] the judgment.” (Hebrews 9:27, KJV)** When you die you either go into the presence of God or you are separated from God forever and ever and ever. It’s either eternal life or it’s eternal judgment. It’s either eternal home or the eternal lake of fire. The difference is what have you

**RESURRECTION
PROGRAM 4 (#910064)
WEEK 1 (910315)**



©2010 PRECEPT MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

done with Jesus? The way you prepare to meet God is by believing in Jesus Christ, by receiving Him as your God, your Savior, your Lord, your Master, your life. Will you receive Him today? If so you'll pass from death to eternal life. You'll be prepared to meet God.