

Jesus The Lord Our Saviour

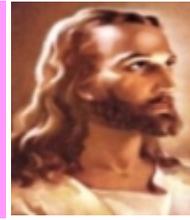
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(Not For Sale)



“ He has lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.” (Luke 1:52-53)

BLESSINGS OF GOD BE YOURS...



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“From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth- he who fashions the hearts of them all, and observes all their deeds.” (Psalm 33:14-15)

**Yaweh! My LORD God! You who sees all of us from the highest heavens! I Thank You and I praise You!
You who gaze on all of humanity! You who have carved our names on the palm of Your Hand !There is no need for any one to reveal all my thoughts to You! I ThankYou, for You it was who formed my heart and my mind! I cannot hide anything from Your mighty Presence! It is You who observes my sighs as well O LORD!**

Lord I seek to camouflage myself in several ways for the sake of the world. But even those that are cleverly masked are not hidden from Your eyes! LORD ! You know all that goes on in my physique, my mind, my thought waves and the resultant actions. To You belong all gratitude and adoration! You see my heart aches at this moment O LORD! Pierce Your Light rays into my being and heal me. May all my past hurts, the scarred wounds be cleansed by the touch of the Light rays that emanate from Your Holy eyes.



LORD save me from the anger, irritability ,the harsh and cruel words that hurt another, all of which come from beyond my control. LORD shield me within the cloak of Your Precious Sight. Preserve me from the prowling eyes of the evil one.

**LORD ! Cast Your Glance upon me and preserve me.
Thank You my GOD ! Thank You! AMEN ! ALLELUIA !**

Fr. V. Ignatius. S. J.

BELOVED IN CHRIST...



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“ He has lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.” (Luke 1:52-53)



**Beloved in Christ! Possessing the beautiful characteristics of justice and truth , let us uproot the evil of bitterness from our heart and rejoice with the Pascal Lamb Jesus who is the “unleavened bread.” (I Corinthians 5:8)
Peace and Joy are symbolic of the Christian life celebrating Pascah. Jesus Christ the Pascal Lamb emptied Himself and climbed the mountain of glory through His humility.**

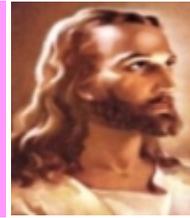
Moses climbed on to Mt.Sinai and gave the commandments given by God to the people. But God taught us by giving Himself up as a Sacrificial offering on Mt. Calvary. The mountains stand as symbols to meet The LORD and enter Glory. When these peaks appear in our hearts they become an embodiment of sacrifice and as pinnacles of humility. The peak of humility turns out to be the safe womb for our LORD.

“He raises up the lowly. He fills the hungry with good things”, and these Words by the Blessed Virgin Mother is a sum-up of Christian living. May the teaching of the Blessed Mother that, “ Only a humble soul will shine as heaven” wake our sleeping thoughts.

Ego and hurtful talk will block the workings and the ensuing Light of the Holy Spirit. The more the simplicity of the heart and truthfulness prevail, the more Holy Spirit God will work in our midst. It is to that extent that one’s soul will function as heaven! I wish you Joy!

Fr. V. Ignatius. S.J.

“I have seen the Lord”



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1. An exceptional News in the history of the world: Jesus who is called the Messiah of the world was crucified on the Cross. He shed His Blood and died on the Cross. They buried the dead Jesus in a new tomb. (John 19:41-42)
2. It is customary to crucify an individual on a Cross, and leave the body as prey to the vultures and foxes. That the dead person rose from the dead and that He is the Messiah, the Redeemer of the whole world, is an unheard of, piece of News.
3. What happened then?

All the four Evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and John bear witness in writing in their respective Books, that Jesus the Nazarene was crucified and died on the Cross. They also reveal that He was buried in a tomb close to Mt. Calvary. The witnessing of those who saw Jesus alive after He rose from the dead, have also been included in these Books. The four Evangelists have written this from varied angles, from varied places in different timings.

Although there is difference in the way witness is borne, yet the crux of the message remains the same.

The One who was dead is alive. We have seen Him.

The Good News written by St. Mark: St. Mark's Gospel which consists of sixteen chapters has mentioned about the Resurrection of Jesus briefly in the sixteenth chapter.

They lowered down the Body of Jesus who was dead, and “laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled stone against the door of the tomb.” (Mark 15:46)

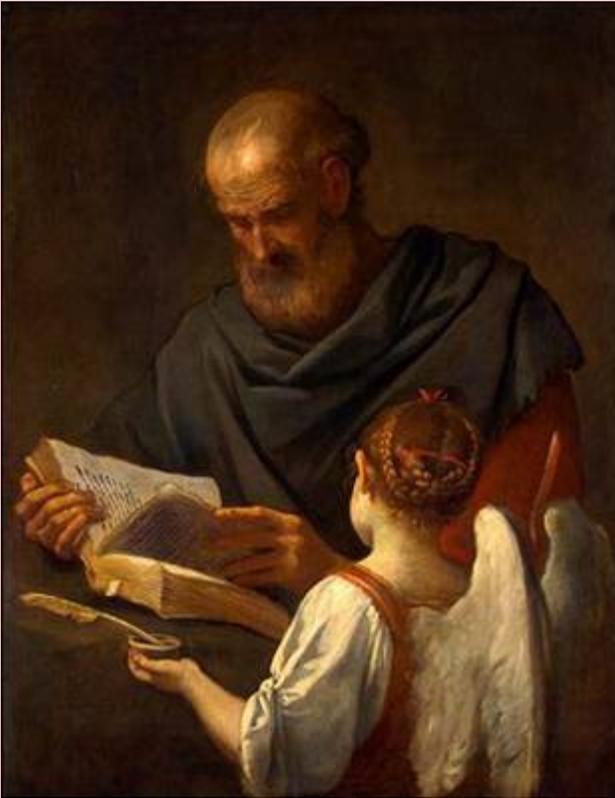
The women who were watching all this, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of Joseph, Mary the mother of James, and Salome at the end of the Sabbath (for it was the end of Saturday) , they all went to the tomb early in the morning , during the break of dawn, the first day of the week, Sunday. They carried with them incense and other perfumes to embalm the Body of Jesus.



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They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” (Mark 16:3) as they were discussing, they then upon a closer look observed that the stone had been rolled away. It was a huge stone. When the women entered the tomb, they were startled to notice a man clothed in a white attire seated on the right side. He said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” (Mark 16:6-7)

They came out of the tomb and ran at top speed. They were so stunned that they did not reveal anything to any one along the way, as they were filled with fear. It is not written that they had seen Jesus coming out of the tomb. But for those who had come to embalm the Body of Jesus, this was a shocking News.

Although Jesus had reiterated the fact of His Resurrection several times, neither his men nor women disciples understood anything of what He said. They were simple people who could not string an imaginary tale. These ladies who had seen the burial on Friday, at the end of the Sabbath, saw an angel in the wee hours of Sunday, instead of the Body of Jesus. It was the angel who revealed to the women that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

The Good News according to St. John: The written method of St. John slightly differs. Mary of Magdala came to the tomb during the early morning hours of the first day of the week. She noticed the stone that had covered the entrance to the tomb, rolled away.

Hence she came running over to Simon Peter and his friend John and said, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” (John 20:13) On hearing this Peter and the other apostle set out to the tomb. They both ran at the same pace. The other disciple ran ahead and reached the tomb first. When he bent and peeped inside, he saw the clothes laid aside; but he did not enter inside. Simon Peter followed him close at hand. He entered straight into the tomb. He saw the clothes and the cloth that covered the head of Jesus, kept. Then the other disciple also went inside, saw and believed. The Prophecy hidden in the sacred Scriptures that Jesus should die and rise again was until then not comprehended by the apostles.

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None of them has ever mentioned that neither the women nor the apostles had seen Jesus come out of the tomb and rise up. They saw the stone closed at the entrance to the tomb, rolled away. They saw the cloth that had covered Jesus. The LORD was not there. The men and women disciples, filled with fear, astonishment, and lost in deep thought, they returned. But one among them, Mary Magdalene stood outside the tomb, weeping. Crying, she bent low and looked inside the tomb. "She saw two angels in white, sitting." (John 20:12) They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?"

Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rab.boun'ni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord."

Jesus was in flesh and blood so much so that a human hand could clasp Him.

The Good News according to Saint Matthew: He writes The News of Jesus' Resurrection in the 28th chapter of his book. After burying the Body of Jesus in the tomb, the Pharisees arranged for guards to the tomb. In spite of that, "Suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here,; for he has been raised, as he said. Come see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead.'" (Matthew 28:2-7) The angels are the first witnesses up to date for the fact that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

The women who listened to what the angel told them, went in great haste. They who were filled with fear and joy ran to tell the disciples. "Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him." (Matthew 28:9) Thus the women were the next witnesses for the Resurrection of Jesus after the angels.

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The Good News According to St.Luke: They took the Holy Body of Jesus from the Cross, wrapped it in a linen cloth, “and laid it in a rock-hewn tomb where no one had ever been laid.’ (Luke23:53)

We read the News of Jesus’ Resurrection in the 24th chapter. Just as mentioned by the other Evangelists, ‘On the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground , but the men said to them, “ Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”(Luke 24:1-7)

The witness of St.Paul:

“For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received; that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Ce’phas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of who are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.” (I Corinthians 15:3-8)

The basic faith of Christianity is that the Son of God became Man, underwent suffering, shed His Blood on the Cross, and that He became a Living Sacrifice for the atonement of the sins of the human race. He died and rose up on the third day. If Jesus were not to rise from the dead, then there would be no meaning in our Good News. St.Paul says, “If Christ had not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.” (I Corinthians 15:14)

The Good News about Jesus Christ cannot be likened to the teachings of other religions on God. Our basic tenet is that just as Jesus rose from the dead, so too would each person rise after their death. Each of us human beings will be redeemed body and soul and will see God face to face in our body and soul.

Fr. V.Ignatius.S.J.