

## **Day One (Easter 2017)**

### **Luke 24:1-6**

Now on the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain *other women* with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. <sup>3</sup> Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. <sup>5</sup> Then, as they were afraid and bowed *their* faces to the earth, they said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> **He is not here, but is risen!** Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee,

**As we celebrate this special day, Easter Sunday, Resurrection Sunday, this Scripture is obviously so important to us!!**

- **But it didn't start here...**

**I think it's important to take a look at what got us to this point...**

### **Genesis 1:1**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- **God created the heavens and earth**
- **Because He needed a home for His most prized creation**
- **Man**

### **Genesis 1:27/ 2:8-9**

<sup>27</sup> So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

<sup>8</sup> The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. <sup>9</sup> And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

- **God gave man the best of everything...Paradise!**
- **God had a one-on-one relationship with man (He loved His creation)**
- **He gave so much, yet expected so little in return**

### **Genesis 2:16-17**

<sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

- **But man fell for a lie from Satan**
- **And sin entered paradise...**
- **Separating man from his rightful relationship with God**
- **And separating us from His blessings**

### **Genesis 3:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. <sup>24</sup> So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

**This brought about a period of law, and mankind trying to prove himself "good enough" for a relationship with God**

### **But the truth is:**

- **God had another plan!! (A plan for redemption...)**
- You see, way back in creation, there was a whole other thing going**

### **John 1:1-3**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

- **God's plan of redemption was already in place!!**
- **We would never be good enough...**
- **We would never deserve His amazing Grace!!**
- **We needed a way out...**
- **We needed a Savior!!!**

**You see, God never quit loving man after falling in to sin...**

- **He gave us a way out...**
- **He gave us Jesus!!!**

**That Word that was in creation, now made man!!  
The Bible tells us of the greatest love story ever...**

- **Jesus born of a virgin**
- **Lived a sinless life on this earth**
- **He didn't just talk a good game...**
- **He demonstrated love and grace**

**And the greatest demonstration of that love was  
Romans 5:8**

**"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."**

- **He died for us on a cross so we can be forgiven of our sin**
- **That's amazing Grace**

**Then the most miraculous thing...**

- **On the third day... He rose again into new life!!!**

**And here's how great God's love is for us..**

**John 3:16**

**"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."**

- **Jesus opened the door for the possibility of everlasting life for each of us...**

**Did you hear that?**

- **Whosoever**
- **Look around you today**
- **Look at all the whosoever's around you today**

**Here's the good news...**

- **Jesus died and rose again, that each of us can have everlasting life**
- **That doesn't start at death..**
- **That starts the second you accept Jesus as LORD!!!**

**It started over 2000 years ago...**

- **Today is Day One of the rest of your life!!!**
- **The choices you make today will affect the rest of your life**

**The Bible says:****John 11:25**

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

**Romans 10:13**

"For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

**There's no better time than now....**

- **You are that "whosoever" Jesus is calling today!!**
- **Everlasting life begins today!**

**Altar/Prayer**