**Easter** *\*\*Series Graphic\*\**

**The Comeback that Changed Everything**

*"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and countless other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day."*

*-'The Antiquities of the Jews,' by Josephus Book XVIII*

(Matthew 28:6)

“He is **not** here; **he has risen**, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay.”

(1 Corinthians 15:12-20)

“But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. **And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith**. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. **And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.** Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. **But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead**, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

**Because of Jesus’ resurrection**:

1. Our **sins** are **forgiven**.

(Romans 4:25)

“He was delivered over to death **for our sins** and was raised to life **for our justification**.”

**Because of Jesus’ resurrection**:

1. Our **sins** are **forgiven**.
2. We are made **new**.

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

“Therefore, if **anyone** is in Christ, the new creation has come: The **old has gone**, then **new is here**!”

**Because of Jesus’ resurrection**:

1. Our **sins** are **forgiven**.
2. We are made **new**.
3. We receive God’s **grace**.

(John 1:16-17) AMP

“For out of His fullness [the superabundance of His grace and truth] we have all **received grace upon grace** [spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, favor upon favor, and gift heaped upon gift]. For the Law was given through Moses, but grace [the unearned, undeserved favor of God] and truth came through **Jesus Christ**.”

 Grace is **everything** for **nothing** to those who don’t deserve **anything**.

 Grace is God reaching down toward mankind **and giving us the free gift of Jesus**.

**Because of Jesus’ resurrection**:

1. Our **sins** are **forgiven**.
2. We are made **new**.
3. We receive God’s **grace**.
4. We experience **resurrection life today**.

(John 11:24-26)

“Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection and the life**. The one who believes in me will live, **even though** they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. **Do you believe this**?”

**Because of Jesus’ resurrection**:

1. Our **sins** are **forgiven**.
2. We are made **new**.
3. We receive God’s **grace**.
4. We experience **resurrection life today**.
5. Jesus is the **only way**.

(John 14:6)

“I am the way, the truth, and the life.”

(Matthew 7:14)

“**Enter through the narrow gate**. For **wide** is the gate and **broad** is the road that leads to **destruction**, and many enter it. But **small** is the gate and **narrow** the road that leads to **life**, and only a few find it.”

(Romans 3:23-25)

“for **all** have sinned **and fall short** of the glory of God, and all are justified **freely** by his **grace** through the redemption that came by **Christ Jesus**. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—**to be received by faith**. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished”

(2 Peter 3:9)

“The Lord is **not slow in keeping his promise**, as some understand slowness. Instead he is **patient with you**, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

(Romans 10:9-10)

“If you declare with your mouth, “**Jesus is Lord**,” and **believe** in your heart that **God raised him from the dead**, you will be **saved**. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.”

(Romans 10:13)

“for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord **will be saved**.”

A: I **have** a relationship with Jesus. *\*\*\*Build a list ending with all 4 on the screen\*\*\**

B: I’m **beginning** a relationship with Jesus.

C: I **need more time** before deciding.

D: I **don’t ever intend** to follow Jesus.