



# The Feast

The background is a vibrant watercolor wash in shades of red, orange, and yellow. A solid red rectangle is positioned in the top right corner. The word "Easter" is written in a white, elegant cursive font across the center of the image.

*Easter*

# The Truth About Death

“By the sweat of your brow will you have food to eat until you return to the ground from which you were made. For you were made from dust, and to dust you will return.”

- Genesis 3:19

There is physical death when our body dies...and spiritual death when our soul is separated from the spirit.

Because of our sin, we all have experienced spiritual death. If our soul is not made pure and reunited with God before our physical body dies, we experience eternal separation from God.

Before sin, there was no death. Death is not good. It is a direct result of sin, not what God had in mind for you.

# Prophecy: Death will be Defeated

“In Jerusalem, the LORD of Heaven’s Armies will spread a wonderful feast for all the people of the world. It will be a delicious banquet with clear, well-aged wine and choice meat. There he will remove the cloud of gloom, the shadow of death that hangs over the earth. He will swallow up death forever! The Sovereign LORD will wipe away all tears. He will remove forever all insults and mockery against his land and people. The LORD has spoken!

In that day the people will proclaim, “This is our God! We trusted in him, and he saved us! This is the LORD, in whom we trusted. Let us rejoice in the salvation he brings!”

- Isaiah 25:6-9

# Prophecy: The Way Back to Life

“He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man’s grave. But it was the LORD’s good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD’s good plan will prosper in his hands.”

- Isaiah 53:9-10

“For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your holy one to rot in the grave.”

- Psalm 16:10

# Prophecies of Jesus' Victory Over Death

“But the Jewish leaders demanded, “What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it. “All right,” Jesus replied. “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” – John 2:18-19

“The Father loves me because I sacrifice my life so I may take it back again. No one can take my life from me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what my Father has commanded.” – John 10:17-18

“I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies.” – John 11:25

# Jesus' Power Over Death

“After his **baptism**, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him.”

– Matthew 3:16

*Baptizō: To immerse to make oneself clean with water*

“Or have you forgotten that when we were joined with Christ Jesus in baptism, we joined him in his death? For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”

– Romans 6: 3-4

# Jesus' Power Over Death

“Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified.

“It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

“Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

“Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

- Matthew 14:22-31

# Death Defeated For All Eternity

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, **and the sea was no more. . . .**

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

– Revelation 21:1-4

# The Prophecy Fulfilled

“On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with 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; he has risen!”

– Luke 24: 1-6

# Light Defeats Darkness

“People of Israel, listen! God publicly endorsed Jesus the Nazarene by doing powerful miracles, wonders, and signs through him, as you well know.

But God knew what would happen, and his prearranged plan was carried out when Jesus was betrayed. With the help of lawless Gentiles, you nailed him to a cross and killed him.

But God released him from **the horrors of death** and raised him back to life, **for death could not keep him in its grip.**”

- Acts 2:22-27

# Our Dread Champion...

“Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God.

The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.”

- Revelation 19:11-16

# The Power of Death is Broken

“So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters. For he said to God, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people.” He also said, “I will put my trust in him,” that is, “I and the children God has given me.”

Because God’s children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who *had* the power of death. Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying.”

- Hebrews 2:11-15

# The New Covenant

You no longer have to be a slave to the fear of dying...the fear of separation of your soul from God.

“For by that one offering he forever made perfect **those who are being made holy**. And the Holy Spirit also testifies that this is so. For he says, “This is the new covenant I will make with **my people** on that day, says the LORD: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.” Then he says, “I will never again remember their sins and lawless deeds.” And when sins have been forgiven, there is no need to offer any more sacrifices.”

- Hebrews 10:14-18

“Each of you must **repent** of your sins and turn to God, and be **baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

- Acts 2:38