

"Working for the Lord When the Going Gets Tough!"

Metro Praiz News

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Meaning of the Resurrection	2
Did you do as I suggested?	2
April in History	3
Judeo-Christian Origins of Easter	3

A Message from your Director...

As we face another transition in our Ministry, we need to hold fast to God's Unchanging hands. We are now facing moments of - "What should we do next? Is there hope for us? Will we make it through?" To all these questions, I encourage you to keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, sing songs of Adoration and Praise, Worship Him with all you've got, and He will answer Right on Time.

I want to let you know that your Pastor, Church Board, and myself are doing everything with God to make certain that the Ministry of Metro Praiz stay on track and continue.

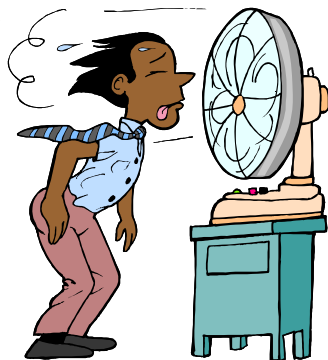
Our Ministry is now a guiding light to Young people all around the Metro Area and the Globe, and we must take this obligation seriously.

As we transition, lets keep a song on our hearts, a prayer on our lips, and our Hope in Jesus, and HE WILL SEE US THROUGH. May God to continue to Bless you all. Peace.

—*Your Loving Director and Friend, Migs*

Working for the Lord When the Going Gets Tough!

Certain situations cause us to feel like giving up on the work that we are doing for the Lord. Please know that this is the trick of the enemy because he knows if we stop working for the Lord we would be working for him. It is either we are doing the Lord's work or we are not. There is no place in between, which is to the dismay of some of us. See we want to just lay back. But in the Master's plan, there is no time to think or act lazy because there is so much to be done in preparation for His coming. Remember that, "...we wrestle not against flesh and blood but again principalities and pow-



ers and against spiritual wickedness in high places..." Ephesians 6:12 Satan loves to instigate contention among the saints, as long as the seeds of corruption dwell in the hearts of men. Abraham had to separate from Lot because of contention. Aaron and Miriam quarreled with Moses. Christ's disciples quarreled about who should be the greatest. Satan loves to seed contention. All for what purpose? It is to gratify the flesh.

In these contentions among saints,

Satan is the great unseen instigator. For this reason we are admonished in EPH 4:25-27, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil."

No matter what the situation, we as His followers need to continue in His work, by the way we speak, walk, talk and Love. Remember when you seem to be discouraged by others, it is not them, it is the enemy seeking whom he may devour. Let's bid him a liar and hold on to the promises of Jesus. Let us make Him our BEST FRIEND!

Meaning of the Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth was the greatest event in human history.

Why? Not just because someone came back from death. That had happened before.

Jesus was acting as a representative for the human race. What He was doing for not for Himself -- but for us.

ROMANS 4:25 NKJ

25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

The people watching Jesus die on

the cross knew nothing of this. Later it was revealed what actually happened. Jesus was being a substitute for the human race, suffering in our stead.

When divine justice was satisfied -- Jesus was raised from the dead as your representative. You got credit for what Jesus did.

It was not just the death and resurrection of one man. It was the legal death and resurrection of us all. All Jesus did was as mankind's substitute Representative.

Jesus was not raised from the dead until you were justified.

That means declared righteous, or

in right standing with God.

The resurrection of Jesus, according to Scripture, is a declaration that God has taken care of the sin problem and made you righteous.

—*list@aDevotion.org*



Did you do as I suggested?

JOKE OF THE MONTH

A businessman was in a great deal of trouble. His business was failing, he had put everything he had into the business, he owed everybody it was so bad he was even contemplating suicide. As a last resort he went to a pastor and poured out his story of tears and woe.

When he had finished, the pastor said, "Here's what I want you to do, put a beach chair and your Bible in your car and drive down to the beach. Take the beach chair and the Bible to the water's edge, sit down in the beach chair, and put the Bible in your lap. Open the Bible; the wind will rifle the pages, but finally the open Bible will come to rest on a page. Look down at the

page and read the first thing you see. That will be your answer, that will tell you what to do."

A year later the businessman went back to the pastor and brought his wife and children with him. The man was in a new custom-tailored suit, his wife in a mink coat, the children shining. The businessman pulled an envelope stuffed with money out of his pocket and gave it to the pastor as a donation in thanks for his advice.

The pastor recognized the benefactor, and was curious. "You did as I suggested?" he asked.

"...put a beach chair and your Bible in your car..."

"Absolutely," replied the businessman.

"You went to the beach?"

"Absolutely."

"You sat in a beach chair with the Bible in your lap?"

"Absolutely."

"You let the pages rifle until they stopped?"

"Absolutely."

"And what were the first words you saw?"

"Chapter 11."

April in History

April 1st in History

1578: Englishman William Harvey discovers blood circulation

1954: US Air Force Academy established

1960: First weather satellite, TIROS 1, launched by the United States

1991: Warsaw Pact officially dissolves

April 15th in History

1800: James Ross discovers North Magnetic pole; Compass sales go through the roof

1865: The American president Abraham Lincoln is assassinated while watching a play

1912: Titanic sinks... A slew of bad movies follow

1986: American warplanes bomb Tripoli, Libya, in retaliation for Libyan terrorism

April 30th in History

1789: George Washington becomes the first US President

1798: US department of Navy established

1803: Louisiana sold to the United States by France

1975: The Vietnam war ends, with the South surrendering to the North

Judeo-Christian Origins of Easter

A very common theme present in many ancient religions described the life of a man-god -- a savior of humanity -- his execution, his visit to the underworld, his resurrection after two or three days, and his ascension to heaven. The life of Yeshua of Nazareth (a.k.a. Jesus Christ) as recorded in the Gospels includes the Christian version of this theme. Good Friday is observed in remembrance of Jesus' execution by the occupying Roman army, and his burial in a cave-tomb. Easter Sunday is the date when a group of his female followers first noticed the empty tomb, and concluded that he had been resurrected.

The timing of the Christian celebration of Easter is linked to the Jewish celebration of the Passover. *Passover* and the *Feast of Unleavened Bread* were observed by the ancient Israelites early in each New Year. (The Jewish people followed the Persian/Babylonian calendar and started each year with the Spring Equinox circa MAR-21). "Equinox" means "equal night;" on that date of the year, the night and day are approximately equal. The name "*Passover*" was derived from the actions of the angel of death as described in the book of Exodus. The angel "*passed over*" the homes of the Jews which were marked with the blood obtained from a ritual animal sacrifice. The same angel exterminated the first born(s) of every family whose doorway was not so marked - one of the greatest acts of mass-murder mentioned in the Bible. Victimized were first-born sons as well as the first-born of domesticated animals.

"The timing of the Christian celebration of Easter is linked to the Jewish celebration of the Passover."

Liberal theologians trace *Passover* to an ancient pre-Israelite Pagan ritual practiced by wandering Semitic shepherds. The *Feast of Unleavened Bread* was originally a traditional Canaanite agricultural harvest which was adopted by the Israelites. It marked the start of the barley harvest; barley was the first crop to ripen. Because they occurred at about the same time each year, the two celebrations became merged into a two-day observance. The Passover became associated with the exodus of the Jews from Egypt.

Conservative theologians generally believe that the original Passover was established up by God as described in **Exodus 5**, and that the annual Passover observances were created as "*appointed feasts*" established by God as described in Leviticus 23:5-14. Both were recorded by Moses.

—Adapted – “Religious Tolerance”

