

## *Man Conquers Death!*

### I. The Human Being, God's Great Work

A. **IN THE BEGINNING** God Said and It Was (So)

Gen 1.3 **And God said**, "Let there be light," and there was light.

FIAT - a decree. (from Latin "let it be done.")

Gen 1.6 **And God said**, "Let there be an expanse,... 7 ... **And it was so.**

9 "Let the waters ... **And it was so.**

24 "Let the earth bring forth living creatures ... **And it was so.**  
**And it was GOOD!**

### B. The Human

Gen 1.26 Then God said, "**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.** And let them have dominion ..." 27 So God **created** man in **his own image**, in the **image** of God **he created** him; male and female **he created** them.

Now this is something God does, not simply by FIAT or by speaking.

We don't get the simple, "**And it was so**" statement for a very, very long time.

Did God get what he was looking for? Not instantly. The human was beautiful, but not perfect. The Image, the Message was incomplete, warped, even totally opposite of what was intended.

David asks, **what is man? What does it mean to be human?**

**Universal question.** My own Journey... Looking for ultimate purpose, understanding God, looking for Myself.

**Existentialism** - no meaning **Hinduism**- puppets on a stage  
**Buddhism**- no self, illusion, release from suffering into emptiness.

## C. Searching for Solutions!

**John 1.1** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

**14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**29** The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

**John 1.43 NIV** The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. **Finding Philip**, he said to him, "Follow me."

**45** Philip found Nathanael and told him, "**We have found the One** Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote — Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

**John 6.48 I am the bread of life. 8.12 "light of the world. ..."**

**10.9 the door. 11 the good shepherd. 36 the Son of God'**

**John 11.25 the resurrection and the life.**

**John 14.6 "I am the way, and the truth, and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me. **9 ...Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."**

**John 19.5** So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "**Behold the man!**"

## **ECCE HOMO "Behold the Human Being"**

In this we see the true image we were intended to bear. Wiping away every illusion, every false value and vain ambition!

**John 19.26** When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "**Woman, behold, your son!**" **27** Then he said to the disciple, "**Behold, your mother!**" And from that hour the disciple took her to his own home.

28 After this, Jesus, **knowing that all was now finished**, said (to fulfill the Scripture), **“I thirst.”** 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth.

30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, **“It is finished!”** and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

**The HUMAN BEING was COMPLETED!**

**As a human, Jesus did what God could not do – DIE!**

**He defeats death by dying. Not by moving mountains,  
Splitting the earth, Lightning bolts, Plagues**

**Not by being Rich & Powerful, Not by being Poor & Outcast,  
but by DYING IN LOVE!**

He did what only God can do: Brought forth a New Creation  
in which death is transformed!

## **II. Turning Death Inside Out!**

**Death – What every human experiences**

A. The **Penalty** of Sin- A **Reward & Reunion**

B. The Last **Enemy** - A **Doorway** into Life

**HE destroyed the Rule of DEATH.**

Heb 2:14 NIV ... *by his death he might **destroy** him who holds the power of death—*

2 Tim 1.10 ... **abolished death**,...

Phil 1.21 For to me to live is Christ, and **to die is gain**. ... 23 I am hard pressed between the two. **My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.**

C The Victory that Changed the World!

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<sup>1</sup> aramaic – *ho m'shalem* (behold, to shalom - nothing missing)

1Cor 15.1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of **the gospel** I preached to you, ...

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that **Christ died for our sins** in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was **buried**, that he was **raised on the third day** in accordance with the Scriptures,

21 For as **by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.** 22 For **as in Adam all die**, so also **in Christ shall all be made alive.**

54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

**“Death is swallowed up in victory.”**

**Crucifixion - what we did to Him**

**Cross - what He did for us!**

**As he dies he destroys death!**

Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free.

He that was taken by death has **annihilated** it.

By descending into Hell, He made Hell **captive**.

It took a body, and met God face to face.

It took earth, and encountered Heaven. -

It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?

Christ is risen, and you are overthrown.

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen.

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.

Christ is risen, and life reigns.

Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave.

For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the first fruits of those who sleep.

To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.

SM Lockridge Video (3 min 29 sec)

**Delivered from:**

**Fear – to Mission!**

John 20:19 NIV On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “**Peace** be with you!”

21 Again Jesus said, “**Peace** be with you! As the Father has **sent** me, **I am sending you.**” 22 And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.”

**UNQUALIFIED PEACE (Back to Eden) ETERNAL PURPOSE  
ENDLESS CAPABILITY**

**The Main Thing**

John 21:15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, **do you love me** more than these?” ...  
16 ... a second time, “Simon, son of John, **do you love me?**” ...  
17 ... the third time, “Simon, son of John, **do you love me?**” ...  
Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.

**God is Love. Love is Holy. With God, All Things are Possible!**

**DO WE LOVE HIM? LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR?**

**Spirit & the Bride say to ALL who are thirsty, "Come!"**

**And let him who hears say...**