No One Saw it Coming – The Strange End of Pessimism!

I. Human Misery & God's Gift: That Our Souls May Prosper... Let This Mind Be in You...!

SYMPTOMS of SEPARATION

Pessimism! ~Tendency to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen, the world falling apart, evil will ultimately prevail over good.

The Curse and the Feast TWO REALITIES — Ven Diagram

- Is. 24:4 The earth mourns and withers; ... 5 The earth lies defiled under its inhabitants;
- 6 Therefore **a curse devours the earth**, and **its inhabitants suffer** for their guilt....
- Is there a cure? [slide 1]
- Is. 25:6 On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, ... 7 And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. [slide 2]
- 8 He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces, ...

[slide 3]

10 year anniversary of Tiffany Aitken's resurrection...

Marcus Young, Philippine testimonies. [slide 4]

[slide 5]

9 It will be said on that day, "Behold, **this is our God**; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; **let us be glad** and **rejoice** in his **salvation**."

Baby... no baby... big baby...

UNEXPECTED CURE — CRUCIFIXION...

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II. He is the ONE! — Not what we expected

- John 1.29 NIV The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away *the sin of the world! (*THE CURSE) [slide 6]
- 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "<u>We have found the One</u> 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 [s 7]
- 10.9 door. [s 8] 11 good shepherd [s 9] 11.25 resurrection and the life. 14.6 "I am the way, and the truth, and the life..
 9 ...Whoever has seen me has seen the Father."

III. The Strangest Plan

FEEDING THE 5000

Luke 9:18 Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were with him. And he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?" 20 ... "But who do you say that I am?" And Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

THE MYSTERY OF SUFFERING - DEATH - RESURRECTION

21 And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one, 22 saying, "The Son of Man must **suffer many things** and be **rejected** by the **elders** and chief **priests** and **scribes**, and be **killed**, and on the **third day** be **raised**."

TRANSFIGURATION. 8 days later

29 And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. 30 And behold, two men were talking with him, **Moses** and **Elijah**, 31 who **appeared in glory and spoke of his departure**, which he was about to **accomplish at Jerusalem**.

ARREST & TORTURE — Humans did it! (He laid his life down)

The disease was part of the cure – the determined **plan**

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- Acts 4:27 ... in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both **Herod** and **Pontius Pilate**, along with the **Gentiles** and the **peoples of Israel**, 28 to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.
- 13.27 ...**did not recognize him** nor **understand ... utterances** of the **prophets**, which are read every Sabbath, **fulfilled** them by **condemning him**.

Human imago Dei restored He became... that we might become

- John 19.5 So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. **Pilate** said to them, **"Behold the man!"**
- Love and Integrity of Purpose
- 28 After this, Jesus, **knowing that all was now finished**, said (to fulfill the Scripture), "I thirst." <for the joy set before him>
- 30 When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, **"It is finished**¹," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit. (**It was so!**)
- A shout of triumph; the purpose of God is accomplished.

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

He defeats the curse death by dying.

Not by moving mountains, Lightning bolts, or killing his enemies ... being Rich & Powerful,

... being Poor & Outcast, but BY DYING IN LOVE!

As God, he did what only God can do!

IV. Turns Death Inside Out!

Crucifixion - what we did to Him

Cross - what He did for us!

A. The Penalty transformed into Reward & Reunion

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

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- B. The Last **Enemy** A **Doorway** into **a new existence** of beauty, joy, and fulfillment
- Heb 2:14 NIV ... by his death he might <u>destroy</u>² him who holds the power³ of death—
- 2 Tim 1.10 ... abolished death²- brought life and immortality to light
- Phil 1.21 For to me to live is Christ, and <u>to die</u> is gain. ... 23 I am hard pressed between the two. <u>My desire</u> is to depart and be with Christ, for that is <u>far better</u>.
- C. The Victory that Changed the Universe!
- 1Cor 15.1 ... The gospel I preached to you, ... 3... as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins <u>in</u> <u>accordance with the Scriptures</u>, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day <u>in accordance with the Scriptures</u>, (past — present — future)
- 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 the perishable puts on the imperishable, the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: **"Death is swallowed up in victory."**

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.

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

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

² Gk. *katargeo* — destroyed, means to **make something ineffective**. Death has not been obliterated, but for the Christian it has been **rendered impotent**, (NET - broken the power of

³ Gk. kratos – the power to rule or control

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Christ is risen, and death is overthrown.

Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen.

Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice.

Christ is risen, and life reigns.

V. RESURRECTION - New Creation!

- Destroyed Death 6th Day (1st Day)
- Took the Keys 7th Day (2nd Day)
- Released New Creation on the 8th Day! (3rd)

6 False Impressions that hinder us... until we Catch Up With The Mind of Christ

1. Tendency to Accept Immovable Barriers

- Mark 16:2 NIV Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb 3 and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"
- 4 But when they looked up, they saw that **the stone**, which was very large, **had been rolled away**.

2. To Look for Defeat, which No Longer Exists

Luke 24:5NIV 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? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember ... 8 Then they remembered his words.

3. To Panic

- John 20:2 NIV [Mary Magdalene] came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, and said, "*They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him!"*
- 4. To Be Stuck in Trauma

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- 11 but *Mary stood outside the tomb crying*. 15 "Woman," he said, "<u>why</u> are you crying? <u>Who</u> is it you are looking for?" **Thinking he was the gardener**, she said, "Sir, if you have carried him away, **tell me where you have put him**, and I will get him."
- 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary." She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, "Rabboni!" (which means Teacher). HE CALLS OUR NAME!

5. Toward Disappointment ~ "It's Over"

- Luke 24:21 NIV but **we had hoped** that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.
- 31 <u>Then their eyes were opened</u> and they recognized him, and <u>he</u> <u>disappeared</u> from their sight. 32 They asked each other, "Were not **our hearts burning** within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" CRUSHED WITH DISAPPOINTMENT ...IGNITES OUR HEARTS & OPENS OUR EYES

6. Toward Survivalism — "We're Next!"

- 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!" 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were *overjoyed* when they saw the Lord.
- (Luke 24:41 ...they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" 42 They gave him a piece of broiled fish, 43 and he took it and ate it in their presence.)
- 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."

HE GIVES US UNQUALIFIED PEACE (Back to Eden) ETERNAL PURPOSE & PARTICIPATION in Divinity

Immovable Barriers, Living with Defeat, Panic, Disappointment, Survivalism — Replaced with ABUNDANCE "maShalem"

The Victory Shout!

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

He's Alive! I'm Alive! It's Only Just Begun...

- In the Resurrection Jesus blew the lock off the prison of death and gloom and returned to the gladness of God.
- From the right hand of God he speaks to everyone of us today and invites us to **the never-ending banquet**:
- "I am the resurrection and the life; **he who believes in me,** though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die.

Do you believe this?"