

The Unexpected Reversals

I. Resurrection Sunday! Worldwide since AD 30! 1990 years! Curing Hopelessness with Unexpected

SYMPTOMS of SEPARATION – Discouragement, Worry and Hopelessness (No solution in sight), Something is late, we feel like it will never happen!

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.

CURE FOR MISERY — Not What We Expected

II. The ONE! — But! Is this what we expect?

John the Baptizer knew he was a forerunner for the Messiah. He was looking for him. **We look for the cure...**

John 1.29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**

We **may not like the cure...** JB sent two disciples to ask

Mt 11:3 **“Are you the one** who is to come, or shall we look for **another?”** (of a different type)

He’s finds us... then we find Him

John 1.43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. **He found Philip** and said to him, “Follow me.” 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, **“We have found him (NIV the One)** of whom Moses ... and ... the prophets wrote, ...

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’**

14.6**“I am the way, (the truth, the life.).** 9 **...Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.”**

III. Unexpected Execution

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?”** **19** ... “John the Baptist. ... Elijah, ... one of the prophets of old has risen.” **20** ... **“But who do you say that I am?”** **And Peter answered, “The Christ of God.”**

THE MYSTERY — 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 and DEPARTURE

28 Now about eight days after these sayings he ... went up **on the mountain** to pray. **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.

MAJESTY and THE HANDS OF MEN

42 ... But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. **43** And **all were astonished at the majesty of God**.

But **while they were all marveling** at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, **44** **“Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is *about to be delivered* into the hands of men.”** **45** But they **did not understand** this ... **it was concealed** from them, ... And they were **afraid to ask** him about this saying.

THE UNEXPECTED PLAN of God — We did it!

Acts 4:27 (In Jerusalem) there were **gathered together** against ... Jesus, ... both **Herod** and **Pontius Pilate**, ... the **Gentiles** and ...

Israel, 28 to do *whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place.*

John 19.5 So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, “Behold the man!” (human)

True imago Dei – love & humility wiping away every illusion, false value and vain ambition!

28 After this, Jesus, knowing that **all was now finished**, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “**I thirst.**”

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

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, or killing his enemies

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

As God, he did **what only God can do!**

IV. THE UNEXPECTED CROSS — Turns Death Inside
Out!

Crucifixion - what we did to Him — Pontius, Priests
The **Cross** - what He did for us!

A. Penalty **transformed** into Reward & Reunion

B. The Last Enemy **became** A Doorway into New Creation

Heb 2:14 NIV ... *through death he might **destroy² the one who had the power of death—***

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

² Gk. *katargeo* — destroyed, means to **make something ineffective or powerless**. Death has not been obliterated, but for the Christian it has been rendered impotent,

2 Tim 1.10 ... **abolished death**²- brought life and immortality to light

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 UNFORESEEN Victory that Changed the World!

1 Cor. 2:8 **None** of the rulers of this age **understood** this, for if they had, they **would not have crucified** the Lord of glory. 9 But, as it is written, “**What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him**”—”

Acts 2:23 this Jesus, delivered up **according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God**, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men..

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

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*, (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.”

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

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

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

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

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. THE UNEXPECTED RESURRECTION - New Creation!

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

UNEXPECTED POTENTIAL is Held Back by Pessimism ... Resurrection Sets Us Free from”

1. Tendency to Accept Immovable Barriers

Mark 16:3 NIV 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. Tendency to Look For Things Which No Longer Exist

Luke 24:5 ... the (angels) said to them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6 He is not here; he has risen! Remember ...

3. The Tendency to Panic

John 20:2 NIV [Mary Magdalene] ran, ..., “*They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don’t know where they have laid him!*”

4. Tendency to Get Stuck in Loss

11 but *Mary stood outside the tomb crying*.

15 “Woman,” he said, “**why** are you crying? Who 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. 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. **WE DON'T EXPECT MIRACLES**

31 ***Then their eyes were opened*** and they recognized him, and ***he disappeared*** from their sight. 32 They asked each other, "Were not **our hearts burning** within us while he talked ... and opened the Scriptures?" **HE IGNITES OUR HEARTS & OPENS OUR EYES**

6. Survivalism — "We're Next!" The Blessing of Peace with a Purpose

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!" 20:20 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 PURPOSE &

PARTICIPATION in Divine Life

Immovable Barriers, Panic, Disappointment, Survivalism, —

Replaced with **ABUNDANCE and Love for ALL PEOPLE**

The Victory Shout!

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

... 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? EVERY BLESSING!