

He is risen just as He said

Matthew 28: 1-10

It seems to be hard to find people who do what they say - honesty is a rare commodity today - and it leads to anxiety and fear in the world

Politicians make promises they do not keep
Products fall short of what they promise.

Our world is filled with distrust, discrimination and hatred
Recent events in Turkey, Brussels and Paris, Africa
There is no peace in our world

I. He is risen

A. The facts of the resurrection

1. He was crucified - public record
2. He died - Attested by soldiers and friends
3. He was buried in a tomb - Guards set to watch over it.
4. The tomb is empty
No body presented by enemies or disciples
Disciples convinced enough to die

II. Just as He said

A. In Prophecy

Over 300 Old Testament prophecies were fulfilled in the life of Christ
The odds of even 8 being fulfilled in one man are 10 to the 17th

1. Christ explained the prophecies- **Luke 2:26-27**
2. **Psalms 22** describes the death on a cross
3. **Psalms 16:8-11** is explained in **Acts 2:22-28**
4. **Isaiah 53:3-6** describes His death for our sins

B. In Parables

1. **John 2:19** Destroy this Temple and in 3 days I will raise it up
2. **Matthew 12:40**
3. **John 12:23-26** He spoke of a grain of wheat that must die in order to bring forth fruit

C. In Plain Explanation

Matthew 16:21, 17:9, Matthew 17:22-23,
Matthew 20:18-19, Matthew 26:31-32

III. Because He lives (quote words of song)

We can be forgiven of sin and adopted into the family of God
We can truly know peace with God, others and ourselves
We can have assurance of eternal life with Christ as He said.

How can we have this peace with God?

Step One- Understand God's Purpose is Peace and Life

God loves you and wants you to experience peace and life--abundant and eternal.

The Bible says... "**We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.**" **Romans 5:1**

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." **John 3:16**

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." **John 10:10**

Why don't most people have this peace and abundant life that God planned for us to have?

Step Two -Recognize the Problem: Our Separation

God created us in His own image to have an abundant life. He did not make us as robots to automatically love and obey Him. God gave us a will and a freedom of choice.

We chose to disobey God and go our own willful way. This results in separation from God.

The Bible says... "**For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**" **Romans 3:23**

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." **Romans 6:23**

Our Attempts to Reach God

People have tried in many ways to bridge this gap between themselves and God...

The Bible says... "**There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.**" **Prov. 14:12** "**But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.**" **Isaiah 59:2**

Step Three- See God's Bridge: The Cross

Jesus Christ died on the Cross and rose from the grave. He paid the penalty for our sin and bridged the gap between God and people.

The Bible says... "**For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ.**" **1 Timothy 2:5** "**For Christ died for sins once for all, the**

righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God." **1 Peter 3:18, "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** **Romans 5:8**

Step Four- Our Response is to Receive Christ

We must trust Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and receive Him by personal invitation.

The Bible says...

"Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." **Revelation 3:20**

"Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." **John 1:12** "**That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."** **Romans 10:9**

Here is how you can receive Christ:

1. Admit your need (I am a sinner).
2. Be willing to turn from your sins (repent).
3. Believe that Jesus Christ died for you on the Cross and rose from the grave.
4. Through prayer, invite Jesus Christ to come in and control your life through the Holy Spirit. (Receive Him as Lord and Savior.)