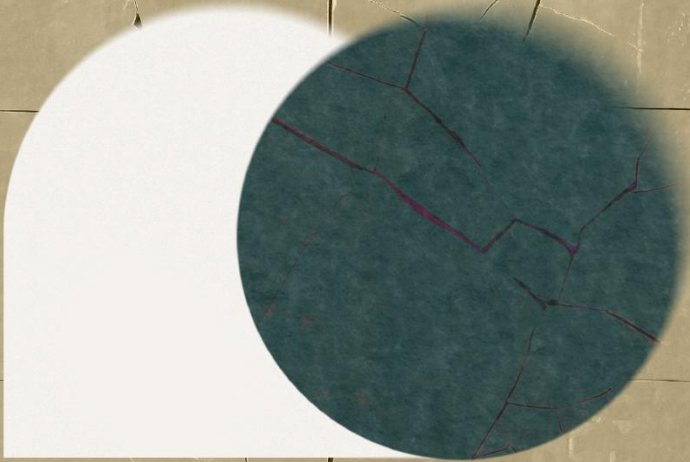


GRACE  
*in the*  
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*Because*  
*He Lives*

# **Because He Lives**

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***Finding Hope, Purpose, and Power  
in the Resurrection***

## **The Message That Changes Everything**

If the resurrection of Jesus is true—and it is—then it changes everything. It's not just a story we celebrate once a year. It is the foundation of our faith, the anchor of our hope, and the reason we can stand when life gets hard.

Paul made it clear in 1 Corinthians 15: *if Christ had not been raised, our preaching is in vain, our faith is worthless, and we are still in our sins.* But because He was raised—because the tomb is empty—we have something unshakable.

This message isn't just theological—it's personal. Jesus rose, and that resurrection reshapes how we face suffering, death, and purpose. Because He lives, we don't walk through darkness alone. We live with confidence, conviction, and clarity. The resurrection is not the end of a story—it's the beginning of a new one.

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## **Hope in the Midst of Pain**

Paul, the very man who suffered imprisonment, beatings, shipwrecks, rejection, and hunger, calls all his afflictions *light and momentary*. Not because they weren't real—but because he measured them against eternity.

He reminds us in 1 Corinthians 15: *“Death has been swallowed up in victory.”* That changes everything. It means that cancer doesn't have the last word. Depression doesn't get the final say. Loss doesn't win. Jesus does.

If you've ever walked through pain and wondered if it would ever end, take heart—because He lives, your suffering is temporary. It may last for a season, but it won't follow you into eternity. Heaven is coming. Healing is coming. Wholeness is coming.

## **Death Has Lost Its Power**

The sting of death isn't just the end—it's the fear of what lies beyond. And Jesus took that sting away. Because He walked out of that grave, we now know that death is not the end of our story.

Paul writes, "*Where, O death, is your sting?*" The resurrection takes death's greatest threat and turns it into a doorway. For the believer, to be absent from the body is to be present with Christ. That's not theory. That's reality.

It's why funerals of believers can feel like worship services. It's why Paul and so many after him could face martyrdom, imprisonment, and loss without despair. Because they knew what was waiting for them on the other side.

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## **A Life That Is Not In Vain**

When you know the end of the story, it changes how you live the middle. That's why Paul ends his resurrection teaching with this charge: "*Therefore, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor is not in vain.*"

Every act of service, every quiet sacrifice, every uncelebrated prayer—it all matters. It echoes in eternity. Living for Jesus isn't just the right thing to do—it's the only thing that makes sense *if the resurrection is true*.

Don't underestimate your role in the Kingdom. Because He lives, you can live with meaning and mission.

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## **The Courage to Say Yes**

The resurrection doesn't just give us peace—it gives us courage. Courage to go, to give, to surrender, to trust.

## *Because He Lives*

Pastor Chuck told the story of Adoniram Judson, the American missionary who asked a father for permission to marry his daughter and take her to Burma—a place she might never return from. In his letter, Judson asked if the father could consent to "*every kind of want and distress... even perhaps a violent death*" for the sake of Jesus and the lost.

That kind of faith only makes sense when eternity is real. And Judson believed it was. Because Jesus rose, their lives—and their sacrifices—were not in vain.

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### **This Is Your Moment**

Maybe you've never truly responded to this message. Maybe Jesus has been someone you admired, but never trusted with your life. Or maybe, like the Corinthians, your faith has grown messy—crowded by distractions or dulled by disappointment.

Wherever you find yourself, hear this clearly: the same Jesus who rose from the dead is alive today. He's calling you. He's inviting you—not into religion, but into *relationship*. Into hope. Into eternal life.

And it starts with a simple, sincere prayer of surrender:

“Jesus, I believe You died for me and rose again. I ask You to forgive me, change me, and lead me. I surrender my life to You. Be my Savior and King. From this day forward, I live for You.”

If that's your prayer today, everything changes. Eternity begins now.

If you already believe, let this message reignite your heart. Because He lives, your pain is not permanent. Your purpose is not small. Your future is not uncertain.

So be steadfast. Be immovable. Be faithful.

Let your life declare what your heart believes:

## Because He Lives

*Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.*

*Because He lives, all fear is gone.*

*Because I know He holds the future...*

*Life is worth the living—just because He lives.*

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### **More Than a Holiday – This Is the Heart of Our Faith**

When most people are asked what their favorite holiday is, the majority say *Christmas*. It's comforting. A baby in a manger, joyful music, lights, family, gifts. But the Bible tells a different story about what we're meant to remember most.

Surprisingly, Scripture never commands us to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Of the four Gospels, only two even describe it. But *all four* focus intensely on His death, burial, and resurrection. That's because the resurrection isn't just one more part of the story—it's the center. It's the reason we have hope, peace, forgiveness, and eternal life.

Easter, though often overlooked in culture, is the *foundation of our faith*. The empty tomb is God's declaration that sin has been paid for, death has been defeated, and a new life is available to all who believe. It's not just a religious moment—it's the victory that makes all other victories possible.

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### **For Anyone Still Wondering**

Perhaps you've gone to church many times. You've heard the songs, sat through the services, maybe even opened the Bible once or twice. But you've never truly trusted in Jesus—not as a concept, but as your Savior.

This message is also for you.

You don't have to understand everything. You don't have to fix your life first. The resurrection invites *you*—just as you are—to

## *Because He Lives*

come and be made new. To receive a gift you could never earn. To stop striving and start believing.

There's nothing magical about the words, but there is *power* in surrender. A simple prayer like this can change everything:

“Jesus, I believe You died and rose again. I believe You did it for me. Forgive me. Change me. Lead me. I give You my life.”

That's how eternal life begins—not with performance, but with trust. Not with effort, but with grace.

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### **Living With Eternity in Mind**

This life is a blink. A mist. A breath. But eternity—that's forever.

Living with that in mind changes everything. It shifts how we see pain. It gives us strength when everything else feels uncertain. It reminds us that our small, daily choices matter more than we know. It frees us from the pressure to chase status and approval and grounds us in a deeper truth: *only what's done for Christ will last.*

When we live with eternity in view, we begin to forgive more easily, love more deeply, and serve more joyfully. We endure suffering not with resignation, but with hope. We realize that trials aren't signs that God has left—but evidence that He's preparing us for something greater.

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### **Nothing You Do for God Is Wasted**

The resurrection doesn't just point to heaven—it empowers our life on earth. That's why the final instruction in 1 Corinthians 15 is so powerful:

*“Be steadfast. Be immovable. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”*

## *Because He Lives*

That promise is for the tired parent, the overlooked volunteer, the quiet prayer warrior, the servant who wonders if it's worth it.

It is.

Every time you choose truth over comfort, compassion over criticism, generosity over greed—God sees it. He uses it. And He promises that none of it is wasted.

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### **The Resurrection Changes Everything**

This isn't just a message for Easter. It's the message for *every* day.

- Because Jesus lives, you can face your pain with courage.
- Because Jesus lives, you can let go of fear and walk in freedom.
- Because Jesus lives, your life is not small, forgotten, or meaningless.
- Because Jesus lives, death is defeated, and hope is eternal.

So live with purpose.

Love without fear.

Serve with joy.

And never forget:

*Because He lives, you can face tomorrow.*

*Because He lives, all fear is gone.*

*Because you know He holds the future...*

*Life is worth the living—just because He lives.*

*Because He Lives*