



Rise Up! Rise Up and Live!

April 3, 2016 / Dan Solofra

⁵⁰ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, **he gave up his spirit.**

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. **The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.** ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

⁵⁵ Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons. Matthew 27:50-56, NIV

Jesus experienced _____ death.

His soul and body _____.

⁴⁶ About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?") Matthew 27:46 NIV

Jesus experienced _____ death on the cross.

The Son of God experienced _____ from God.

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. Matthew 27:51^a, NIV

Jesus' death restores _____ with God

The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people. Matthew 27:51^b-53, NIV

With his death, Jesus destroyed _____ and gave _____.

⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!" Matthew 27:54, NIV

Jesus' life and death proved he is the _____.

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?" John 11:25-26, NIV

Jesus promises physical life even after I _____.

Jesus gives _____ life in the midst of _____ death.

⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:4, NIV

Knowing my _____ in heaven gives me the ability and desire to live a _____.

I can enjoy my new life in Christ _____.

MEMORY VERSE

Just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:4^b, NIV

Bottom line: Jesus is the Son of God. His death brings physical and spiritual life than I can begin to live and enjoy today!

What's your next step today?

Mark it on your Communication Card.

Growth Group Learning Activity for the Week

Quick Review: Looking back to Sunday, is there something about the message that caught your attention or made you think differently about God or his Word?

My Story

In the message Pastor Dan said that Jesus' death and payment for sin restored our relationship with God.

Can you think of a time in your life when you felt separated from God? When was it? Why do you think you felt that way?

How can a person move closer to God?

Pastor Dan talked about our destiny. Those who believe in Jesus can be assured that they have a future with God that death cannot touch.

What impact does knowing your destiny have on your new life of faith?

Digging Deeper

1. This week we spoke about physical life and death and spiritual life and death.

Physical death is a separation of _____ and _____.

Spiritual death is a separation from _____.

If these are the definitions of death, how would you define physical and spiritual life?

2. Read Ephesians 2:1-3.

Are these verses talking about spiritual or physical death?

What does this death look like?

How do you see spiritual death in our world today?

3. Read Ephesians 2:4-9

Jot down a definition of grace.

What are some promises in these verses that give you comfort and encouragement in your new life?

4. Read Ephesians 2:10

In what way are you and other people God's handiwork?

What are some good works that God has prepared in your life for you to do?

Take it Home

What is an area of your life that you would like to give special attention in living a new life?

What is your next step in doing it?

Prayer Requests