

The Lamb is Also the Firstfruit 2018-04-01

Matt 28:1-10.....He is risen!!!

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men.

⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you."

⁸So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."

Easter marks the event that fulfilled 1,400 year prophecy.

- Form of prophecy called Biblical typology; uses people, places, and/or things as divinely intended revelations of greater truths to come, the fulfillments.
 - When looking back, we can see what God had in mind all along.

Three Jewish spring feasts typology progressively reveal God's redemptive plan for man

- Jesus accurately fulfilled the prophecies down to minutest detail of each on the very day celebrated.
 - Passover/Crucifixion, 1st day Unleavened Bread/in grave. Lev 23:5-6, 10-14
 - 3rd= Feast of Firstfruits: not celebrated today: no Temple/priesthood.

1st Fruits instituted 1st time Israel ate fruit of Promised Land.....Manna ceased.

- 1 sheaf (small handful, like bouquet) of first, best from harvest before fully mature or any of it had been eaten, sold, stored.....offered/WAVED to Lord.
- God wanted His people to give thanks for future crop.
 - Expressed trust in God's faithfulness to provide necessities of life.
- Several important events happened on this calendar day in Bible.
 - 2,500 years before resurrection, ark rested on Mt. Ararat. Genesis 8:4
 - Israel crossed Red Sea after deliverance from Egypt. Exodus 14

Fulfilled unexpectedly and powerfully when Jesus who suffered and died, was first to be physically resurrected from dead – never to die again. 1 Corinthians 15:20-23, Romans 6:9, James 1:18

- Resurrection is proof that because of all of who Jesus Christ is Christians are guaranteed to be forgiven, saved, rise from dead w/new body & exalted to glory w/Jesus.

Resurrection is proof Jesus Christ is perfect in every way. Acts 17:31, Romans 1:4, 2 Corinthians 5:21

- Evidence Jesus's substitutionary sacrifice/death accepted as payment for Christian's sin, our debt Paid In Full, guilt removed because Jesus was without sin....perfect.Guarantees Christians are forgiven, ransomed and reconciled to God.
 - New eternal, irrevocable relationship with God.

Resurrection is proof Jesus is loving. Hebrews 12:2, Romans 5:10, John 15:13

- Joyfully, willingly sacrificed himself for our rescue.
- Jesus is alive and constantly present, caring for you every moment of your life.
 - Jesus provides everything you need until you see Him face to face. 2 Peter 1:3-4
 - No matter how hopeless/weak have grace to make it to end.

Resurrection is proof Jesus is omnipotent and faithful, now/future. Acts 2:24, Luke 24:6-7, John 10:17-18

- Power to transform us and conform us to be like Him: new person living victoriously over sin/temptation, enslavements.
 - Power to walk in fruit of Holy Spirit with new love for God and people. John 14:16-17, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Corinthians 13:4-8
- Power in future to raise us out of this broken world into an eternal destiny in paradise without sin/suffering with Him. 2 Peter 3:13, Philippeans 3:20-21, 1 Peter 1:3-5
 - Power to provide new resurrected body like His...the "First fruit"

Resurrection wondrously proclaims Jesus's perfection/beauty, love and power and guarantees all who trust in Him for salvation will be forgiven, reconciled to God, transformed, rise from dead in final "harvest" & exalted to glory with Him. 2 Thessalonians 2:13, Romans 8:11

- Have you trusted in life, death, resurrection of Jesus Christ to rescue you, transform you, secure your eternal future in heaven?