



BROAD STREET

BANNER

April 17, 2019

BROAD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOL. XXXIV NO. 15



From Where I Sit . . .

"The Greatest Surprise of All"

The greatest surprise in history is the resurrection of Jesus. It appeared that evil had triumphed. His followers were understandably terrified. If God is defeated, what hope is there? The real triumph was invisible. No one saw it happen. Not a single person. They only saw the results. First, there was an empty tomb which added to their despair. Next, they saw Christ. Their faith was weak until it became sight. **Luke 24:25-26 (KJV)** ²⁵**Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken:** ²⁶**Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?** Still today, it requires faith, not sight to be a follower of Jesus. **John 20:28-29 (KJV)** ²⁸**“And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. ²⁹Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.”**

Friends, nothing can overcome God's power. The resurrection of Jesus proves that nothing can overcome His love & power. With that in mind, it's also very comforting to note that He promises we will be raised, **1 Corinthians 6:14 (KJV)** ¹⁴**“And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.”** We must anticipate God's power in our lives. With God we must expect the unexpected. We must watch for surprising outcomes!! Jesus and the power of His resurrection can give us peace even when our world is collapsing. God doesn't always follow our expectations.

God's surprises are written on the pages of Scripture and spread throughout history. Abraham was given a son in his old age and beyond the human expectation for having a child. Moses had his back to the Red Sea, then God parted the water. Joseph was surprised twice. He was sold into slavery, then made the master of a house. Later he was made a prisoner again. God's surprise was to make him the master of a kingdom. The crowning glory and joy of all His majesty and power, however, was in the resurrection of His Son. If God raised Jesus from the dead, then we can know with assurance that He is able to accomplish what He has promised for you and I!

In the meanwhile, you and I must do God's bidding so that we are resurrected unto eternal life and not unto condemnation (**John 5:28-29**). Jesus said, **John 3:7**, **“Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.”** God requires spiritual rebirth to enter the Kingdom of God (**John 3:3,5**). He provides what he promises: New Birth, and entrance into the Kingdom of God. In the words of a great Christian hymn, **“My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less Than Jesus' Blood and Righteousness!!!”** This hope is for salvation, for entrance into the kingdom of God, His church, and hope for the resurrection from the grave to eternally live with God.

. . . Terry Broome