THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS AND HIS RESURRECTION

Luke 24:1-12

1) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF LOVE:

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

"SO": this word speaks of the depth of His love for each of us.

Romans 8:35-39; "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written: "For Your sake we are killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter." Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, not angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

"GAVE": this is a picture of the sacrifice of His Love. "WHOSOEVER": this speaks of the inclusiveness of His love. "NOT PERISH": this speaks of the provision of His love.

2) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF HOPE:

BECAUSE HE LIVES God sent his Son, they called Him Jesus, He came to love, heal, and forgive. He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there to prove My Savior lives. How sweet to hold a new born baby and feel the pride, and joy he gives, but greater still the calm assurance. This child can face uncertain days because he lives. And then one day I'll cross the river; I'll fight life's final war with pain; and then as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives. Because He lives I can face tomorrow, because He lives all fear is gone, because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives.

3) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF ASSURANCE:

a) Assurance of salvation to all that come to Him. John 6:37; "All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out."

b)Assurance of a resurrection: 1 Cor. 15:51-52; "Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed."

c)Assurance of a future home: John 14:2-3; "I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am there you may be also."

4) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF POWER:

a) Power over sin, Satan, and the flesh: Romans 6:1-14

5) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF LIFE:

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

6) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF FORGIVENESS:

Psalm 103:1-5; "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless His holy name! Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all our iniquities, who heals all our diseases, who redeems our life from destruction, who crowns us with lovingkindness and tender mercies, who satisfies our mouth with good things, so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's."

7) IT IS THE MESSAGE OF HIS RETURN:

Acts 1:11; "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."