



Life After Easter



I. Easter Realignment

1 Peter 2:10 (NIV®)

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Matthew 27:50-53 (NIV®)

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 and the rocks split. ⁵² The tombs broke open and the bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs, and after Jesus' resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

A. Righteous

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV®)

²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

❖ Jesus was made sin with my sin; that I might be made righteous with His righteousness

B. Justified

Romans 4:25 (NIV®)

²⁵ He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

C. Redeemed

Galatians 3:13-14 (NIV®)

¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree." ¹⁴ He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.

II. Good News & Our Response

Acts 2:37-41 (NIV®)

³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

A. Repent

Mark 1:15 (NIV®)

¹⁵ "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

❖ Repentance is a catalyst to belief

Matthew 21:31-32 (NIV®)

³¹ "I tell you the truth, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, **you did not repent and believe him.**

Hebrews 6:1 (NASB®)

¹ Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of **repentance from dead works** and of faith toward God,

❖ Repent of self-righteousness

B. Baptism

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV®)

¹⁹ Therefore go and **make disciples of all nations, baptizing them** in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

1 John 1:7 (NIV®)

⁷ But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

C. Gift of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV®)

⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but **in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**"

Acts 2:38 (NIV®)

³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And **you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

Acts 10:44-46 (NIV®)

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.

⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that **the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.** ⁴⁶ For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said,

John 16:7 (NASB®)

⁷ "But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I pray that You would give me a spirit of wisdom and revelation that I might know You better. Open the eyes of my understanding to know the hope to which You have called me and the magnitude of Your power for us who believe. May the name of Jesus be exalted throughout the earth, amen.

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