



***[H.I.S.] He is Savior, Acts 4:12**

April 1, 2024

HIS Ministries April 2024 Newsletter, covering March, 2024

Happy Resurrection Day Celebration on March 31st , also called Easter celebration.

"His birth was the promise, but His resurrection is the proof that He is our Lord and our God."

Now can sing: "HE IS ALIVE, HE IS ALIVE, AND I'M FORGIVEN, HEAVENS GATES ARE OPEN WIDE." (From 1970's song, "He Is Alive", by Don Francisco.)

This year both ***Palm Sunday*** and ***Easter*** celebration fall in the same week – ***Palm Sunday*** on 24th, and ***Easter*** on 31st of March. We are often asked if it is proper to call this celebration "***Easter***", for as Christians, **we celebrate that Sunday as the "Resurrection Day."** We know that the word ***Easter*** only appears in **the King James Version of the Bible** just once (in Acts 12:4). It is actually a mistranslation or misinterpretation of the Greek word, ***Pascha***, which means ***Passover, a Jewish Passover Feast***, which is celebrated on the first Sunday, following the full moon. ***Easter*** was originally a pagan festival, honoring "***Eostre***", a *Teutonic goddess of light, spring and fertility*, celebrated around the same time as Jewish Passover which is commemorating Hebrews freedom from Egyptian slavery. We, as Christians, do not identify or have anything to do with pagan festivals, but we perhaps need to know about this if we are asked where some of these names come from and why. We also need to remember that we do not celebrate that day with fertility symbols of eggs or "Easter-bunnies" as unbelievers do, but **we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus that took place this same time of the year.** Preaching of ***the Gospel of Christ*** is what we are called to do. It is teaching who Jesus is and that "***He died for our sins, was buried and rose again on the third day, according to the Scriptures***". (1 Cor. 15:1-4.) His sacrifice brought forgiveness and eternal salvation to all who accept Him as their Savior and Lord, and are then ***born again***. (John 1:12; 8:24; 14:6.) As we celebrate the ***Resurrection of Jesus Christ*** and our salvation through our faith in His finished work, let us not forget that He is coming back soon. As His First coming was foretold in the Scriptures, so is His Second coming. Jesus said, "***Search the Scriptures for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.***" (John 5:39.) We must not be ignorant about this teaching, but be expecting Him to come at any time. This is our needed and urgent time to share the true Gospel of Christ with all who do not yet belong to Him. Before ***the Lord's Visual Second coming***, the Scriptures teach that He will come first "***in the clouds***", and meet us ***in the air*** (1 Thess. 4:13-18) and take His Bride, the Church, to ***His Father's House*** until ***the 7-year Great Tribulation*** on earth is passed. (John 14:1-3.) We will come back with Him in His Second Coming and then "***every eye will see Him***". (Rev. 1:7; 19:11-14; 20:4.)

We wrote in our March 2024 newsletter about the events that took place during Jesus' last week of His earthly ministry, from ***Palm Sunday*** (in the Hebrew calendar it was the 10th of Nisan, 32 A.D.) to His crucifixion four days later, and to His resurrection and ascent 40 days later.

The Jewish calendar counts 30 days for a month and 360 days for a year. The first month of the year in the Jewish calendar is Nisan. (In our Western calendar that time is in March and April.)

What happened in Israel during this time of the year, almost 2000 years ago, took place just as ***it was written in the scriptures*** on God's timing that is prophetic and exact.

We will copy here from that letter:

“Passover is celebrated on the 14th of Nisan when *all able-bodied Jewish men were to be in Jerusalem* to celebrate Passover. Therefore Jesus also was on His way to Jerusalem. On Friday, six days before Passover, He arrived in Bethany to spend the Sabbath with His friend Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha. (See: John 12:1-3.) Everything was to take place “*according to the scriptures*”. Palm Sunday, the 10th of Nisan, was a set day when all Passover lambs were to be brought to Jerusalem for inspection by the priests, and then 4 days later, on Passover, be killed as a sin offering. (Exodus 12:1-6.) Therefore Jesus had to be in Jerusalem on that day, for He is “*the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.*” (John 1:29.) [Thus *Jesus’ final week of ministry on planet earth began on that day, Palm Sunday, the 6th of April, 32 A.D.*] That day was *exactly 173 880 days after King Artaxerxes Longimanus had “given the command* (March 445 B.C.; see Nehemiah 2:1-8, 17-18) *to restore and build Jerusalem, the day when the Messiah is presented to Israel.* (Dan. 9:25-27) *That day was Jesus’ presentation day as Meshiach Nagid, Messiah the King! (Nagid was also used of King Saul.)*

[*Sir Robert Anderson, the Director of Scotland Yard, and a famous Mathematician, had, in 1894, made calculations based on the Ancient 360-day calendar, and figured out that from the 14th of March, 445 B.C. to the 6th of April, 32 A.D. was exactly 173 880 days, and that day was Palm Sunday, the 10th of Nisan, 32 A.D.!*]

That was the very day when *Jesus’ Passion Week* began! He rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling what Prophet Zechariah had written 500 years before. “*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold your King is coming to you, He is just and having salvation; lowly and riding on a donkey; a colt, the foal of a donkey.*” (Zech. 9:9.) “*Jesus rode down the hill to Jerusalem surrounded by 250 thousand Passover lambs driven there to be examined by priests (Exodus 12:1-6), and 4 days later killed as Passover lambs.*” (As reported by Josephus, a famous Jewish historian.) When the Chief Priests, Scribes and Pharisees saw the multitudes of people coming to meet Jesus, *singing Hosanna*, [which means, “*save now we pray*”], they angrily told Jesus, “*rebuke your disciples*”, but Jesus said to them, “*I tell you that if these should keep silent, the stones would immediately cry out.*” Jesus, seeing the city, “*wept over it saying, If you had known, especially in this your day, the things that make your peace, but now they are hidden from your eyes.*” (Luke 19:41-42.) Then the Chief Priests, Scribes and Pharisees took counsel together to figure out how they could get Jesus killed - and not only Jesus, but also Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead, for because of Lazarus, many of the Jews believed in Jesus. (John 12:9-19.) [Many of the chief priests were Sadducees, and they did not believe in the resurrection, and for that reason they wanted to get rid of Lazarus also.] These Jewish leaders were angry and they were beside themselves as they were plotting their murderous plans and *get rid of Jesus.* (Mark 14:1-2.)

[Now, during the days before Passover, *Jesus went to the temple and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple. He overturned the tables of the moneychangers. He healed the blind and the lame that came to Him. He cursed the fig tree that had leaves but no fruit on it, which is that they (Israel) had a show of religion, but no fruit from it.* (Matt. 21:12-19.) And when His disciples pointed out the magnificence of the Temple, Jesus commented that it will be destroyed and that “*no stone will be left there upon another*” (Matt. 24:1-2) and He also said that *He will raise it up again in three days.* They didn’t understand until after His resurrection that He had meant that *His body will be raised from the dead in 3 days.*

[When the Chief Priests and Sadducees had asked Jesus to give them a sign if He indeed was who He said He is, Jesus told to them, “*no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. And He left them and departed.*” (Matt.16:4.) **What is the “sign of Jonah?” It is Resurrection!**]

[The story of Jonah in the OT is a short one – only 2 pages, explaining how God had sent the Prophet Jonah to go and preach repentance to the city of Nineveh, the capitol of Israel’s main enemy, Assyria. Jonah hated the Assyrians and he also knew that his God was forgiving and merciful, and he feared that they would repent and then God will forgive and save them. Rather than going about 500 miles East to Nineveh, Jonah took a ship that went to Tarshish, 2000 miles West! A huge storm arose, and Jonah was thrown overboard. But God had prepared a fish that swallowed Jonah, and while still alive in the fish’s belly, Jonah prayed. 3 days and 3 nights later, the great fish vomited Jonah alive onto dry land. Now Jonah obeyed God and though reluctantly, he preached to Nineveh. The people repented and God saved them and their city. Therefore Jesus was saying that even after He will be put to death, *3 days and 3 nights later He will rise from the dead as was Jonah.*]

[On Wednesday (17th of Nisan) Jesus sent Peter and John to go and prepare the Passover meal for them for that evening. (Luke 22:8; Matt. 26:17-25.) Judas Iscariot, whom the devil had already convinced to betray Jesus, went to the

Chief Priests and Scribes and asked, ***“What will you give me if I deliver Him to you? And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. So from this time he sought opportunity to betray Him.”*** (Matt. 26:14-15.)

That evening all twelve of them gathered for their last Passover meal together. We see how concerned Jesus was for His disciples, but not for His suffering and death that was at the door. He taught them by example (John 13:5-17), showing that they, as His own, ought to be loving and humble servants of God. The lowest task of a servant in that culture was washing of feet of others. Peter severely objected to Jesus washing his feet, and asked Him to wash *his hands and head also*. Jesus answered that ***“they were already clean”*** (i.e. saved) ***“but not all of you.”*** (13:10-11.) Jesus was referring to Judas, who never was truly saved. By this Jesus was also saying that ***after we have been cleaned*** (saved from sin), ***we only need daily cleansing from sin’s pollution***, and that cleansing comes by ***“washing of the water by the word”*** (Eph. 5:26.) Reading of John, Chapter 13, we see Jesus’ *broken heart and troubled spirit* as He continued to teach them and even now teaches all of us, and *all who are His own*. (13:21-26.) Jesus said to them, ***“one of you will betray Me.”*** They were perplexed about that and wondered who it was that could do that! (13:21-26.) Then Jesus gave Judas a piece of bread (representing His body that will be broken for them (and for us). ***“Now after receiving the piece of bread, Satan entered him*** (Judas). ***Then Jesus said to him, ‘What you do, do it quickly.’ But no one at the table knew for what reason He said this to him... Having received the piece of bread, he*** (Judas) ***then went out immediately. And it was night.”*** (13:27-30.) [It is always ***“night”*** “when we willingly sin and turn away from our loving Lord.] [We find it revealing that Judas left before they drank from the cup representing the blood of Jesus that will be shed for remission of sins of all who repent.] ***After the Passover Supper they sang a hymn and went to the Mount of Olives.*** (Mark 14:26.)

Jesus went there often to pray and they also met many times with Him there, thus Judas also knew the Garden of Gethsemane well. Judas led the Chief Priests and Pharisees and the detachment of Roman Troops (who came there with lanterns, weapons and torches) to arrest Jesus. (John 18:1-3.) [They came seeking ***the Light of the world with lanterns!***] Jesus asked them, ***“Whom are you seeking?”*** They answered Him, ***“Jesus of Nazareth.”*** (John 18:4-6.) When Jesus answered, ***“I AM (He), they drew back and fell to the ground*** (and Judas who betrayed Him was with them). [I AM is one of the names of God, YHVH, (Jehovah) in the Old Testament. ***They understood that He meant that HE IS GOD, and fear fell on them all.***] ***“Then the detachment of the troops and the captain and the officers of the Jews arrested Jesus and bound Him. And they led Him away to Annas first for he was the father-in-law of Caiaphas who was high priest that year.”*** (18:12-14.) They took Him to ***all-night trials*** (which were illegal) to be tried in a ***religious trial before Annas, the High Priest*** (18:12-14, 19-23) and then ***Annas sent Him bound*** (18:24) to the Roman appointed ***High Priest, Caiaphas*** (his son-in-law), in order to prove Jesus guilty of blasphemy and heresy. (Because the Jews were under Roman rule, they had to work through Roman courts to secure the guilty verdict necessary for ***the death penalty that they wanted.***) Then Jesus was taken to a ***“civil trial”*** to be tried before Roman authorities (first to Pilate, then to Herod, and again to Pilate) to prove that He was an enemy of Caesar and thus deserved death by crucifixion. Pilate said to the Jews that ***he found no fault in Jesus, but they insisted that He was guilty.*** Pilate, even after a long all-night session of questioning Him, did not find Him guilty, for Jesus did not even try to defend Himself. [He could not, for He was standing there accused in our place, and we all are guilty.] Pilate told to the Jews: ***“You take Him and crucify Him for I find no fault in Him.”*** (19:6.) Pilate had tried to get Jesus to say that He was the King, and when He did not answer, Pilate angrily said, ***“Are you not speaking to me? Don’t you know that I have power to crucify you or release you? Jesus answered, ‘You could have no power at all against Me, unless it was given to you from above. Therefore the one who delivered Me to you has the greater sin.’”*** (19:10-11.) [Who then had the greater sin in this matter? ***Was it Caiaphas the High Priest or Judas the betrayer, or the Jews and their leaders in general, for the Jews had the Scriptures that predicted the coming Messiah? Therefore the Jews should have known better!***]

From that point on, Pilate sought to release Jesus, but Jews said to him (thus questioning Pilate’s loyalty to Caesar), ***“If you let this man go, you are not Caesar’s friend. Whosoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar.”*** (John 19:12.) Actually Pilate made six attempts to release Jesus during this trial. He said to the Jews, ***“You take Him and judge Him according to your law. Therefore the Jews said to him, it is not lawful for us to put anyone to death.”*** (18:31.) Pilate also had said, ***“...I find no fault in Him at all.”*** (18:38b) ***He wanted to release Jesus!*** (18:39.) He even tried to satisfy the Jews by scourging Jesus instead. (19:1.) Pilate appealed to their pity on Jesus and said to them, ***“Behold the man”*** (19:5), and later, ***“Behold your King!”*** (19:14.) But he likely said all this because he was angry at the Jews for ***making him condemn Jesus whom he had pronounced innocent!*** ***“Then they led Him to be crucified*** (John 19:16; Isa. 53:7) - ***it was the 14th of Nisan! And it was Thursday!”*** ***But Sunday is coming... “three days and three nights” takes us to Sunday morning!***

When Jesus was hung on the Cross, Pilate wrote the title - **JESUS OF NAZARETH, THE KING OF THE JEWS**, to be put on the Cross in the three languages spoken in the area – *Latin* (official language of the empire), *Greek* (common international language) and *Hebrew* (language of the Jews). It was placed above His head in the center of the cross. The Chief priests of the Jews objected and wanted Pilate to change the words to read, **“He said, I am the King of the Jews.”** But Pilate refused and said, **“What I have written, I have written.”** (19:19-22.)

Before Jesus gave up His life, He commended His mother’s care to John, His beloved apostle (rather than any of His brothers who were not yet believers), indicating that from that moment on John would be her son. (19:25-27.) **There at the foot of the Cross stood only His beloved John and four women: 1. Mary, the mother of Jesus; 2. Marys’ sister Salome, the mother of John; 3. Mary, the wife of Cleopas**, (who was a follower and disciple of Jesus, (mentioned in Luke 24:18); and **4. Mary Magdalene.** (John 19:25-27.) During the three hours of darkness (from noon till 3:00 PM), Jesus’ suffering for our sins was so horrendous that He cried out with a loud voice, **“My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?”** (Matt. 27:45-46.) Then, as a final fulfillment of Scriptures, He said, **“I thirst.”**(John 19:28, Ps. 69:21.) And after receiving the sour wine, He said, **“It is finished!”** (In Greek: *Tetelestai* = **“paid in full”**) and **“He gave up His spirit.”** (John 19:30.) **His work on earth was finished, completed.** He alone had now provided eternal salvation to all who believe on Him. **The moment of His death became the moment of every true believer’s salvation.** (John 1:12; 6:28-29; Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 10:9-10.) We have no capacity to understand why the Creator of the Universe - **King of Kings and the Lord of Lords** - loved mankind so much that He became a man, one like us, and by His death paid the penalty of all our sin. (John 3:16.) **“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”** (Rom. 6:23.) **That is amazing! He did all that for you and me!**

“On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone was taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.’ Peter therefor went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen clothes lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scriptures, that He must rise again from the dead.” (John 20:1-9.)
The Resurrection is the most important revelation in all the Scriptures. Without the Resurrection of Jesus, there is no salvation, and our faith would be in vain. (1 Cor. 15:12-19.)

It was Sunday, the 17th of Nisan when a group of perplexed, devastated and saddened disciples, believers and followers of Jesus, who, after having witnessed His crucifixion, death and burial, were walking back home to Emmaus, and talking with each other about what some women had told them that very morning, saying that Jesus was alive! They could not believe that! It was then that Jesus joined them, and started walking with them, but they didn’t recognize Him. He asked them, **“What kind of conversation is this that you have as you walk and are sad? Then the one of them whose name was Cleopas said, ‘Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have you not known the things which happened there in these days? And He said to them, ‘What things?’** (Then they told Him about Jesus of Nazareth who, they had thought, was **“a prophet mighty in deed and word... and how the chief priests and rulers had condemned him to death and crucified him, but they had hoped that He was the one who would redeem Israel. And today is the third day since these things happened! ...And how some women had told that they had seen vision of angels who said that He was alive...”** [In Luke 24:15-35 it is Jesus Himself who gives the most amazing and condensed Old Testament teaching explaining who He is and what they had not understood, even though He had been with them for 3.5 years.] **[It is the Written Word of God that we all need in order to know and understand.** (Rom. 15:4.)] Now Jesus, rather than saying, **“it is me, and I am alive”**, He took them to the Scriptures, explaining what has been written about Christ. **“And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.”** (See Luke 24:25-27.)

When they arrived in Emmaus, **He indicated to them that He was going to go further, but “they constrained Him saying, “Abide with us, for it is towards evening... And He went in to stay with them...”** [We think that the couple, who invited Him to stay with them that evening were *Cleopas and his wife Mary* (the same one who had stood with the other

3 women by Jesus' cross). (See John 19:25.) Later Jesus, ***"as He sat at the table with them, He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight."*** (Luke 24:28-31.) [Note: the Jewish custom was that ***the host of a home breaks bread and serves it***, but here it was Jesus who did it!] When they saw His nail-scarred hands then ***"they knew Him".... And they said to one another, "Did not our heart burn within us when He talked with us on the road, and while He opened the Scriptures to us?"*** They immediately, even though it was late, ***"returned to Jerusalem and found the eleven and those who were still gathered together, saying the Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon! And they told about the things that had happened on the road and how He was known to them in the breaking of bread."*** (Read now all of Luke 24.)

The Acts of Apostles is often called "Luke 2", for it was written by Luke, the author of the Gospel of Luke, ***"a beloved physician and companion of Apostle Paul"***. It summarizes the growth of the Christian Church in the first century and is written as a book of history, referencing to many cities of the first century Roman world, customs of the day and he mentions many political officials, often by name, also listing many events and dates that open it to criticism and investigation to undeniable accuracy. This is the second book that *Doctor Luke* wrote, giving many ***infallible proofs*** (Acts 1:3) of ***Christ's Resurrection*** that were not speculations but certain confirmed facts of His many appearances, showing Himself alive to multitudes of people and also to His disciples many times during the 40 days before His ascent to heaven.

Dr. Henry M. Morris, the Founder of the Institute for Creation Research (ICR), who also wrote the Defender's Study Bible (perhaps the best study Bible on God's Creation) explains best what ***"infallible proofs"*** actually means. He says that ***"in Greek it is just one word (tekmerion) and it occurs only this one time in the New Testament. It emphasizes that the evidences for Christ's resurrection were not philosophical speculations but certain facts. It is appropriate that the word occurs only once, for no other event of biblical history has been confirmed more certainly than His bodily resurrection."***

Our dear Minna's favorite scripture was John 3:16. ***"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*** That can be also our Easter message, for it gives a simple and powerful answer to anyone who wonders ***why did Jesus have to die for us?*** It was because of our sin! ***"Wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord."*** (Rom. 6:23.) ***"Jesus died for our sins, was buried and rose again on the third day."*** When we know and believe that, ***we will never perish but will have everlasting life with Him.*** God created all mankind as eternal beings, ***as He is.*** (Gen. 1:27.) We actually will never die, only our physical bodies can die, but our soul lives forever. The question is ***where do we live after our bodies die?*** The Bible tells that all who have *received (believed)* what John 3:16 says (and what our Minna also believed), will immediately, at time of their death, go to be with the Lord Jesus. (2 Cor. 5:6-8.) Our bodily resurrection will take place ***at the Rapture when Jesus appears in the air, bringing with Him those who, before that event, have died as believers, and He also comes to take us who are still alive to live with Him in the Father's House*** (John 14:1-3; Rec. 3:10; 1 Thess. 4:13-18), while the *7-year Tribulation* is taking place on the earth. After the Tribulation we all will come back with Him, and ***He will rule and reign from Jerusalem, Israel, for a thousand years.*** (Rev. 19:11-16; 20:4.) Then, after the Great White Throne Judgement (Rev. 20:11-15), God creates the new heaven and a new earth. (Rev. 21-22). What a great future God has prepared to all who, through a new birth, have received Jesus and have become children of God. (John 1:12.) We are now living in ***"the times of the signs"*** (Matt. 16:3) and as we study God's Word we come to see ***"what time it is"*** on God's clock. The Bible ***"reveals history written in advance"***, and only God can know that. (Isa. 48:5; Rom. 4:17b). We are nearing the end of time. The signs are everywhere. This is a wonderful time to share what God has prepared for all who believe and want to follow Him. Before the time of Christ, God had revealed the future through His prophets, but ***times of the prophets ended.*** (Matt. 11:13. Luke 16:16.) In Hebrews 1:1-2 God tells us that ***from this time onward, His Son, by whom He made the world, is the One who reveals the future. And it is revealed in the Book of Revelation, which is "the revelation of Jesus Christ"*** (v.1). ***Before the Church was born*** (2000 years ago) ***at Pentecost, there was a God's Nation Israel, and only God-called prophets could speak for God. The first three chapters of the Book of Revelation take us to the end of the Church era, when the Rapture of the Church takes place.*** (1 Thess. 4:13-18.) Then chapter 4 begins with the Greek word ***Meta Tauta***, that means ***"after these things"***, revealing that ***everything that was before will change***

“after these things”. Then starts the Tribulation that is going to be a terrible 7-year period of suffering, meant for ***Messiah-rejecting Israel (that had prophets and should have known better), and to the unbelieving rest of the world that has rejected Christ. The last half of that 7-year period will be the greatest time of suffering the world has ever known.*** [The New Testament teaches that the current church age also includes trials and tribulation, and persecution of Christians, but Jesus has said not to lose courage for He has overcome the world (John 16:33). The Lord has promised to take His own ***from it.*** (Rev. 3:10.) 1 Thess. 5:9 also assures that believers in Christ *are not appointed to God’s wrath.*

Now is the great time to bring hope to all who are not sure what life will be like *“after these things”.* The church will be raptured and live in peace with the Lord in heaven. (John 14:1-3.) (No one should want Tribulation!) We all ought to know what God has promised in order to be better witnesses to unbelievers. Isaiah (1:18) called people to come together and *think and reason* what God has said. God called His people to safety. (Isa. 26:20-21.) We must be prepared for these coming times. (Read Ezekiel 36-38; Zechariah 12-14.) The Lord has said that He will not come back *until they (Israel) acknowledge their offence and directly seek Him and ask Him to return.* (Hosea 5:15.) God is calling all people to come to Him. This is our time to contact people we know and love, and let them know that they can be saved. John 3:16, ***“God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*** When we saw Minna the last time, just shortly before she unexpectedly passed, she mentioned how important that verse was to her and how she wanted to talk with her close friends about the Lord so they would be together even after this life is over. It is almost 2 years ago when God called her home. Oh how we miss her!!! We know that we will see her, and be with her, even forever, someday. We like to remind all of you to tell your loved ones that Jesus loves them and wants them come to Him too.

We thank you for your prayers and for your support of our ministry. Your assistance gives us strength and determination to continue our ministry-work we really love. Dennis is still working in his carpentry profession for our personal needs, but he also takes time to help me in answering Mormon-questions and challenges that are continually presented to us. We love questions and comments we receive and can answer, and we are very glad to hear that many of you share our newsletters with others that like to be helped on how to present the truth to their LDS friends also.

We also ask that you’ll pray for our dear Judy, who continues to have lots of pain. She is a special soul and loved by all who know her. Suzi had her hip replacement surgery 2 months ago. She is healing well from that, very difficult surgery, but she also will have to have a knee replacement surgery in a month! Please pray for these! There will be continued therapies ahead for her, but she is such a brave and joyful woman that we know she’ll be fine sooner than we think. Prayer is needed also for Marlene, Harold, Bruce, Mark & Virve, Al, Sandy, Julie, Jamie, Luke, McKenzie, Aira, Heber, Sam, Sharon, Roy, Robert, Lisa, Elina, Bailey, Helen and Mark Cowen in N. Ireland. We rely on the promises that our Lord has given to us in 1 John 5:14-15. ***He hears and answers every prayer as we pray according to His will.***

We ask that you will continue to pray with us for those who have heard the gospel of Christ, but have not yet responded to God’s call to them for salvation. Some of them are our friends and relatives and some are our old Mormon friends we love dearly. It saddens our hearts that we will not see any of them after our life here is over unless they come to the Lord and are saved. ***“...God our Savior desires that all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.”*** (1 Tim. 2:3-5.) The Lord is pleading that they would repent and let Him change their hearts and minds while there is still time. ***“...times of ignorance God [has] overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.”*** (Acts 17:30.)

Let all of us join together in celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on Sunday 31st of March, 2024. “HE’S ALIVE, HE’S ALIVE, AND I AM FORGIVEN, HEAVEN’S GATES ARE OPEN WIDE.”

With the Love of Jesus while waiting for His Coming,

Rauni and Dennis

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