



## THE HOPE OF RESURRECTION



*Luke 24: 31, 32* The resurrection is an event of history because it was primarily an experience of revolutionary hope. We are certain the disciples had a life changing experience of hope on that first Easter. Judas' betrayal and suicide, Peter's denial, the mockery of justice in Pilate's courtroom, the inhumanity of the street mob, the conspiracy of the religious establishment and the Roman state, the crown of thorns, and the cross upon which Christ was crucified; all of these had left the followers of Jesus in utter despair. When despair dominates a man or a movement, death is not far behind.

The despair of the disciples almost meant the death of Christianity. Bewildered, they thought they had been following the genuine Messiah and not an impossible dreamer. Into the lives of the early Christians the resurrection brought a revolutionary hope. Christ was alive! Death had been conquered! The promises of God had been fulfilled and could be trusted. The hope of the resurrection caused Jesus' followers to move from the despair of declaring, "look what the world has come to", to proclaiming instead "look what has come to the world!" The revolutionary hope of the resurrection means courage to face the future without fear. When the early Christians grasped the meaning of the resurrection, they were no longer victims of despair but victors in hope. Christians affirm the future even though we cannot predict its outcome. The courage to face the future without fear is neither an easy optimism nor a brief inevitable process, instead, it is a confidence that, no matter what happens in the future, God will eventually triumph. This kind of hope gives us confidence in a life after death. But the courage to face the future is not reserved simply for those facing death. The hope of the resurrection is necessary for facing the daily decisions of life as well. The hope of the resurrection means restless impatience with the status quo. Once the early Christians experienced the hope of the resurrection the triumph of God in human life they overcame their moral inertia and became morally involved in the world. "Whoever is sent through Easter into history with a great hope can no longer be satisfied with an anxious affirmation of the status quo in the world but is called to transform the world through suffering and obedience" (Moltmann). Revolutionary hope in the future breeds a restless impatience with injustices and inequalities, and people are motivated to make human life more human. The church comes alive through volunteers who want to bring Christ's kingdom on earth.

The revolutionary hope of the resurrection means a joyous celebration of the present. Because of Easter Christians can find joy in their existence. The church is the direct consequence of the resurrection. The disciples overcame their despair and organized the church as the living body of Christ in the world. Participation in this community of revolution changed their perceptions so that they risked every kind of danger and suffering disappointment in order to go "to all peoples everywhere" and make disciples as Jesus commanded.

THINK ABOUT IT!!!!

# IMPORTANT SPECIAL NOTICE

## 2015 WBWF ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In the last ten years we have noticed the attendance for our Annual Conference has declined considerably. I am sure there may be many reasons as to why this has happened. In our last Board meeting it was suggested that instead of an Annual Conference to have 4 regional meetings a year. Thus, making it easier and closer for our ministers to attend. Several Pastors across the country have told us they would be happy for their church to host a WBWF Conference. Therefore, this year we are not going to have an annual meeting. We are planning to have four. Please note the one that works for you, and please put forth a special effort to attend. If at all possible, bring a representation from your church. It will be an encouragement to us and I know it will be a great blessing to you.

WHEN: March 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

PLACE: Largo, FL

CHURCH:

**Christian Fellowship Church**  
**900 Starkey Rd.**  
**Largo, FL 33771**

PHONE: 301-723-0418

PASTOR: Rev. Stephen Gulbranson

WHEN: June 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

PLACE: Wichita, KS

WHERE:

**Best Western Hotel**  
**915 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> St. N (I 135 Exit # 13)**  
**Wichita, KS**

CONTACT: Rev. Beth Ann Hardin

PHONE: 316-648-4335

WHEN: May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>

PLACE: Bridgeport, WV

CHURCH:

**Bethel Temple Christian Center**  
**133 Johnson Ave.**  
**Bridgeport, WV 26330**

PHONE: 304-842-4852

PASTOR: Rev. James Gizzi

WHEN: November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

PLACE: Porterville, CA

CHURCH: **Gospel Lighthouse Church**

**605 E. Henderson**  
**Porterville, CA 93257**

PHONE: 559-361-5238

PASTOR: Rev. David Martin

REG. REP: Rev. Richard Jacobs, Jr.

707-334-5757

## SCHEDULE FOR CONFERENCES IN 2015

Information for accommodations to the various motels, locations and phone numbers will be sent out as the time for each conference approaches.

March Conference in Largo, Florida - the motels are:

**Hampton Inn** 100 E. Bay Dr. Largo, FL (Ph: 727-585-3333)

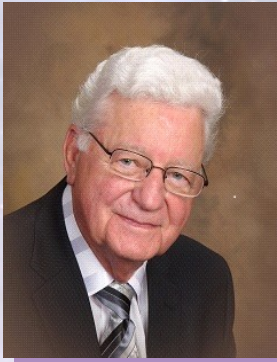
**Holiday Inn** Express 210 Seminole Blvd. Largo, FL (Ph: 727-581-3900)



# TRUSTING IN TRIAL

Trust in yourself and you are doomed to disappointment; trust in your friends and they will die and leave you. Trust in God and you will never be confounded in time or eternity. It is a weak faith that can exercise itself only when friends are true, the body healthy and the business is profitable.

Real faith clings to the Lord's promises and relies on His faithfulness when loved ones leave, health departs and dark clouds obscure our future. As Job once proclaimed from a heart that had experienced the truth of God's faithfulness; "though He slay me, I will trust Him". Can I say it when I feel the searing fire, when my fondest dreams lie shattered, when my hope and fond desire are gone? "Though He slay me, I will trust Him", for He knows just how to mold, how to melt and shape my spirit. It has been well said, "Reason can only lift a happy tune when the sun shines, but faith is an eternal songster". Do we murmur and rebel in our hour of trial or do we trust the Lord implicitly?



Remember, true faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and therefore receives the impossible! Can we trust Him when it seems the hardest thing of all?

THINK ABOUT IT!!!!

## How do I know that Jesus Lives?

More than three women witnessed the empty tomb.

Peter and John witnessed the empty tomb.

The rulers of Jerusalem believed it and yelled

"Thief!" to try to cover it up.

Paul states that over 500 men saw Jesus alive after his resurrection.

The change in attitude of the disciples.

The inability of his enemies to silence his witness in two thousand years.

His presence in the Church today.

The witness in my own heart.

## The Preacher's Corner

### CHRIST'S GIFTS

He gives us many wonderful gifts.

We will list just three:

1. Life
  - a) Enjoyable life - John 10: 10
  - b) Eternal life - John 11: 25, 26; John 3: 16
2. Love
  - a) Faithful love - John 15: 13
  - b) Forgiving love - 1 John 1: 9
3. Liberty
  - a) From sin - 2 Corinthians 5: 17
  - b) From sinful habits - John 8: 32-36
  - c) From sickness - Isaiah 53: 5

All these gifts are free. They are for us. However, they are of no value until we accept them.



Visit us on our website at: [www.worldbibleway.com](http://www.worldbibleway.com)  
Or send us an Email: [wbwf@worldbibleway.com](mailto:wbwf@worldbibleway.com)

## *The Events*

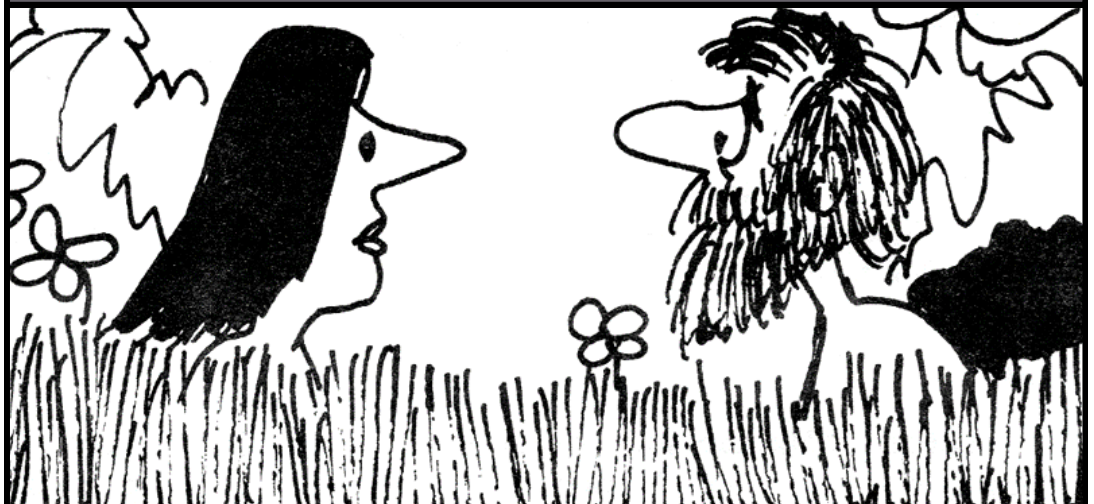
World Bible Way Fellowship  
P.O. Box 153694  
Irving, TX 75015

**Return Service Requested**

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Never  
make  
a  
permanent  
decision  
based  
on  
a  
temporary  
storm

The Photo on the upper left is one of many taken by the Hubble telescope. It is called "Pillars of Creation". This generation is blessed in that we are witnessing more of God's creations than any other generation before us. Just another sign in the heavens.



One day in the Garden of Eden, Adam asked Eve,  
"Do you really and truly love me?"  
"Who Else?" Eve replied.

