

## **“Remember Jesus Risen”**

2 Timothy 2:8, 11  
Isaiah 65:17-25  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
Luke 24:1-12  
Easter

*The counsel from an elder apostle (Paul) to a young man (Timothy ... from 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy, chapter 2): “REMEMBER Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, because the saying is trustworthy: IF WE HAVE died with Him, WE WILL ALSO live with Him.”*

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

### **Bridge**

**HERE’S** what a senior apostle **most-says** to a young man ... the **message** (the **message most important**) for a **parent** to pass on to their child (or grand-parent to their grand-children): that **life (and it now and forever)** is what’s **ours to receive** from the resurrection of Jesus ... that we remember **THAT**, and all that **THAT** implies and includes ... and that everything else takes care of itself **in that remembrance**, because **Jesus’ life from death means ours ... life from death for also us / life through death for Jesus and us**. And **remembering that** isn’t only a **cognitive** or **mental** exercise or ascent, yet is (most certainly) a fact to be known ... and fully and deeply known. **Remembering** is not, also, just a **mood** but can give one (moods as in being “up” for some moments yet knowing that we’re not going to, always, **feel “up” that way**). **Remembering’s** the **gift appreciated (of living-inside-of the divine life of Jesus ... to be “joined-into it” / that resurrected life of His by the physical means of His Words and baptism into Him by water and promise so**

**memorable, then, as a physical act and the proclamation-of-it** ... thrust upon us from outside of us (as grace from God, not works from inside us but God's actions and promises about us and for us of His will (that "we're saved by grace, not works, lest anyone should boast"). **Remembering** is of the "what"- and "how"- and "why"-of-it-all ... answered by God with what He says and does and promises (all knowable). It's **why** Paul to Timothy focused his charge to this young boy on **THIS**, because "**THIS IS** the eternally-saving Gospel" / **IT IS** "Jesus Christ, risen from the dead" ... and that **THIS IS ALSO TRUSTWORTHY**: "if we died with Him, we **will also** live with Him".

**JESUS' RESURRECTION IS TO BE REMEMBERED  
SO THAT PEOPLE (WE) RISE AND LIVE WITH HIM.**

1

Early on **that morning of 2,000 years ago** some women **remembered** the **awful things** which had happened on Friday: Jesus' arrest and trial, Him beaten and whipped and, then, executed by the shamefulst of crucifixion. They **remembered** their duty: that (because of the Sabbath) preparing His body for its burial didn't get done, people hastily wrapped Him in cloth and buried Him before the sun set. But they'd been with the group who'd laid Him into the cave with no perfumes to slow down the decay of His body. The women of Easter morning **remembered to come and do what they needed to do for their friend's body**, just didn't remember (therefore didn't expect) that He wouldn't be there ... He'd be raised by then. They'd forgotten His words about that (when He'd said-so earlier), yet (that morning) found

the massive stone rolled from the tomb's cover, and going inside, they didn't find Jesus' body nor the guards outside of it that the Romans had posted to secure the grave, so "they were perplexed" the text says. ....

**How much different this account would have been had they remembered (so expected what happened) and said "Oh, yes, this is exactly as Jesus said it would be.** We should have gotten here with all the brothers much earlier so that we could all **awaited this ... coming this late we knew that we wouldn't find His body because of course He's risen just as He said He would be ... and now has. He's alive."**

But they'd **forgotten** that ... maybe **not listened to His words** along the way so gave **no chance** for them to believe it. An angel **reminded them: "Remember how Jesus told you while He was still in Galilee** that the Son of Man **must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise"**, but without **listening (at least, well-enough)**, they'd not **remembered that**, so, then, failed to, really, **believe that** and **count-on all He'd said**. See, one doesn't **believe when they don't remember** and we don't **remember what we don't listen-to** as Jesus knew, so said (even while telling those around so long before it all happened): "**let these words sink into your ears**". Yet **they didn't**, so "they **understood none of those things**" because they didn't **listen enough to pay-attention and believe (as in trust-in, count-on, and live because of it)**.

But **some did ... and remembered what Jesus had said. They** happened to have been His **enemies**, though, who were **caused to listen and remember His words by Satan and for his purposes**. What **followers** missed, Jesus' enemies didn't, and His

words **put them into action**: to the governor (Pilate) they asked: “Sir, we remember how that **impostor** said that after three days “I will arise”, therefore **order guards at the tomb and secure its entrance.**” See, enemies **remembered what supposed friends did not.** Enemies remembered Jesus’ Words and **lived in their remembrance / they acted** in their “remembering” while Jesus’ followers did according to their “**forgetting**”: hiding with fear and not venturing-out far or gathering by the tomb with confidence of His resurrection, not hopeful there and anticipating His rising, but mournful and sorrowful as if Jesus lay **dead still**, and **would stay that way.** Upon the third day, though, He **didn’t.** On that day’s dawning, guards got **divinely dealt-with** and the **rock got pushed aside.** Jesus **emerged alive and well.** The Son of God (who had died) **had risen** just like He **said He would.**

**JESUS’ RESURRECTION IS TO BE REMEMBERED  
SO THAT PEOPLE (WE) RISE AND LIVE WITH HIM.**

2

Because even **we can live as if He’s still dead.** If **we have not listened-enough** so **well-remember** and **believe (trust-in and count-on)** the fact that **as He is risen from a death for us and lives, we too can live because of it), we’re** fearful and timid (and appropriately-so) ... **we’re**, then, eternally-unconfident or mistakenly-confident ... we’d **have nothing eternal** to talk with our children and children’s children about (with our friends and neighbors). Scripture says that **we can be far too temporal:** “If **in this life only** we have hoped in Christ, we are **of all people most to be pitied**”. “But **in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,** the **firstfruits** of those who

have fallen asleep”, and if **this fact** doesn’t **change everything**, including every commitment and further-hunger (so listening with joy), then maybe we’ve not been **really listening**, just **loosely hearing** (and, probably, **with only some light frequency** and out of **sentiment** rather than **deep interest**).

**JESUS’ RESURRECTION IS TO BE REMEMBERED  
SO THAT PEOPLE (WE) RISE AND LIVE WITH HIM.**

3

Jesus’ resurrection is **ours** through listening and receiving it in promised ways **He gives** linking us to it in **certain ways of gift by His Words**, and those (by promise) **ours through baptism into what Easter and Good Friday is for us**. “All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus” (Romans 6 says) “**were baptized into His death. WE** were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, **in order that**, just as **Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, WE TOO** might walk in newness of life; for if we have been united with Him in a death like His, **WE SHALL CERTAINLY BE UNITED WITH HIM IN A RESURRECTION LIKE HIS.**

**JESUS’ RESURRECTION IS TO BE REMEMBERED  
SO THAT PEOPLE (WE) RISE AND LIVE WITH HIM.**

4

If **you** struggle with remembering, therefore believing and trusting / counting-on God and all His wonderful promises concerning every one of your days and every moment of the eternity that’s promised to be “Paradise”, then know that **God remembers you perfectly** (which is the more important thing). “At the right time …

while we were still sinners (and He knows us that way first) ... Christ died for us. God (in the way of a cross and empty tomb) loved the world, giving His own Son to die for a Good relationship to be possible, so that whoever believes in Him should not perish but, rather, have eternal life ... and whoever believes and is baptized shall be saved (not may be)" Knowing God (I mean, really knowing Him) is certainly available, yet being known by Him (remembered by Him) is the biggie. See, where we forget Him, God never forgets us in this life, perfectly remembering us (that's what this whole Passion week was all about), because He wants us all to be His own (by baptism and faith) into His Gospel work and Son, secure in (and knowing) His promises about all of that, and also for a world (the whole world) for whom Jesus died to pay for sin (and He wants all saved by it).

He is risen, and so-shall everyone IN-HIM be!

JESUS' RESURRECTION IS TO BE REMEMBERED  
SO THAT PEOPLE (WE) RISE AND LIVE WITH HIM.

So HERE'S what a senior apostle **most-says** to a young man ... the **message** (the **message most important**) for a **parent** to pass on to their child (or grand-parent to their grand-children): "**REMEMBER** Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, and the **saying is trustworthy:** IF WE HAVE died with Him, WE WILL ALSO live with Him."

Thanks **be** to God for the **memorable gift that is**. A most blessed Easter remembrance for you. In +Jesus' name. Amen.