

“The Bondage Breaker: The Easter Rout!”

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□ The Resurrection

- Matthew 28:1-6
- Frederick Buechner: “If we are to believe [Christ] is really alive with all that that implies, then we have to believe without proof. And of course that is the only way it could be. If it could be somehow proved, then we would have no choice but to believe. We would lose our freedom not to believe. And in the very moment that we lost that freedom, we would cease to be human beings. Our love of God would have been forced upon us, and love that is forced is of course not love at all. Love must be freely given. Love must live in the freedom not to love; it must take risks. Love must be prepared to suffer even as Jesus on the Cross suffered, and part of that suffering is doubt.” (*The Magnificent Defeat*)

□ The Evidence

- #1—The _____ of Jesus (Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 10:32-34; Luke 18:31-33; John 2:19-22)
 - It was common knowledge in Jerusalem that this Man predicted He would rise from the dead (Matthew 27:63).
- #2—Many “_____” proofs (Acts 1:3; 1 Corinthians 15:5-9)
 - The NT records at least 10 such appearances
- #3—The conversion of _____ witnesses—James and Paul
 - James, the step brother of Jesus, publicly declared that Jesus was “out of His mind” during Christ’s ministry (Mk 3:20-21—but see Acts 1:14).
 - Saul/Paul was the archenemy of the infant church (Acts 9:1; but see 9:22).
- #4—Fearful to _____
- #5—The _____ tomb
 - Even the soldiers, assigned to guard that tomb, testified that it was empty—to which the chief priests concocted the lie while the soldiers slept Jesus’ disciples had stolen the body (but how would a sleeping soldier know who had stolen the body?).
- #6—The existence of the _____ (Acts 2:23-24; 3:14-15; 4:10-12; 4:33; 5:30-31, et al)
 - Tim Chaffey: “The reality of the Resurrection was central to the message the apostles preached. The book of Acts, almost universally recognized as reliable history of the period, claims that these men spoke about the Resurrection repeatedly.” (*Answer* April-June 2014)
- #7—Principle of _____
 - Why would writers of history invent details that do not seem to help their cause?
 - Tim Chaffey: “Either the writers were quite foolish or exceedingly clever or they wrote precisely what happened.”
- #8—_____ hearts in later generations

□ The Change

- Ephesians 1:18-20; 2:1, 4-5
- Paul’s inescapable point: The power that freed Christ from His _____ is the identical power that can free us from our _____.
- The devil can no more hold you in your sepulcher of _____ than he could hold Christ in the tomb of _____.
- “Christ’s death and resurrection have opened before every soul an unlimited source of _____ from which to draw.” (RH 11-5-1901)

unlimited!

testimony, infallible, skeptical, fearless, empty, church, embarrassment, Changed, grave, addiction, sin, death, power

"THE BONDAGE BREAKER"

CONNECT CARD

Mr. / Mrs. / Miss / Ms.

Change in contact information

April 19, 2014

Name: _____

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1st Time Guest 2nd Time Guest Regular Attender Member

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Best Contact Phone: (____) _____

YOUR AGE GROUP:

- Junior High School
- Collegiate 20s
- 30s 40s
- 50s 60s
- 70s and up

If guest, how did you hear about PMC? _____
(Flyer, TV, Google search, name of person who invited you, etc.)

Place this card in the offering plate or hand it in at the Welcome Center as you leave.

MY NEXT STEP TODAY IS:

- I want the unlimited power of my risen Savior to set me free.
- I seek the unlimited power of my risen Lord to keep me free.
- Because of His miracle, I choose to face tomorrow with confidence and without fear.

I'M INTERESTED IN:

- Beginning a relationship with Jesus
- Information on baptism
- Information on church membership
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Comments, Prayer Requests: _____

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