

Message: Easter 2017 - Holy Week Realities

Scripture: Matthew 27:15-26, Matthew 28:1-6a, 9

Teacher: Randy Pope

Dates: 15/16 April 2017

1. Good Is Not Good Enough, But Goodness Can Be Exchanged For Righteousness.

Matthew 27:15-26

¹⁵ Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to release for the people any one prisoner whom they wanted.

¹⁶ At that time they were holding a notorious prisoner, called Barabbas.

¹⁷ So when the people gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release for you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?"

¹⁸ For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over.

¹⁹ While he was sitting on the judgment seat, his wife sent him a message, saying, "Have nothing to do with that righteous Man; for last night I suffered greatly in a dream because of Him."

²⁰ But the chief priests and the elders persuaded the crowds to ask for Barabbas and to put Jesus to death.

²¹ But the governor said to them, "Which of the two do you want me to release for you?" And they said, "Barabbas."

²² Pilate said to them, "Then what shall I do with Jesus who is called Christ?" They all said, "Crucify Him!"

²³ And he said, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they kept shouting all the more, saying, "Crucify Him!"

²⁴ When Pilate saw that he was accomplishing nothing, but rather that a riot was starting, he took water and washed his hands in front of the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this Man's blood; see to that yourselves."

²⁵ And all the people said, "His blood shall be on us and on our children!"

²⁶ Then he released Barabbas for them; but after having Jesus scourged, he handed Him over to be crucified.

- 1) Each Of Us, Like Barabbas, Has A Moral Debt That Must Be Paid.
- 2) Each Of Us, Like Barabbas, Can Have The Cross Of Christ Cancel Our Moral Debt.

2. Goodness Could Never Become Righteousness Unless Jesus Rose From The Dead.

Matthew 28:1-6a, 9

¹ Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

² And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.

³ And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.

⁴ The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

⁵ The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified.

^{6a} "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. ...

⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him.

1) Our Life Purpose Would Be Invalid.

2) Our Spiritual Freedom Would Be Imagined.

3) Our Eternal Assurance Would Be Impossible.