

Resurrection Sunday - He Has Lyo-ed Us

Delivered: 31 March 2024

Scriptures: [Revelation 1.5](#)

Quotes on the Cross

“We need to know God exactly as He is. That knowledge is nowhere presented more accurately than in His suffering unto death. The cross, therefore, is the very place where the profoundest capacity to reveal the truth of God can be found.”

-Art Katz - *And They Crucified Him*

“When you look at the cross, you see God as He truly is all the time. You see what was hidden in the ages past. Before the cross, aspects of God's nature were hidden by His glory. On the cross, He was fully exposed for the first time in eternity.

-Samuel Whitefield - *Discipleship Begins with Beholding*

“Crucifixion is more than the way Jesus died in history; it is His essential character. The stigma of crucifixion became the glory of love. He is forever the Crucified One, and He has the scars to prove it.”

-Bob Gladstone - *Marks of the Cross*

Main Text - ([Revelation 1.5-6](#))

"To Him who loves us and released us from our sins by His blood — and He made us into a kingdom, priests to His God and Father — to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen”

To *Him* who *loves* us and *released* us from our sins by His *blood*

To HIM who loves us

HE loves. HE is the initiator...of life, of salvation, of repentance, of the sacrifice that was made for all of those things a reality for us...EVERYTHING is from Him, through, Him, and unto Him.

To Him who *LOVES* us

He *LOVES*. Love is His motivator for everything...He created because of love, HE came to us because of love ([John 3:16](#))... and He died because of love.

Sin didn't kill Jesus, love did. Victory over sin and death was a secondary consequence...but Jesus didn't go to the cross because of sin, Jesus went to the cross for love.

[1 John 4.10](#) - "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the exchange for our sins"

[Romans 5.8](#) - "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

[1 John 3.16](#) - "By this we know love...He laid down His life for us."

[1 John 4.10](#) - "In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins."

[Galatians 2.20](#) - "...the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

[Ephesians 5.25](#) - "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her"

^^the example of the engagement ring^^

To Him who loved us and...released us from our sins

His Love Has *Lyo-ed* Us

The result of His love is that we are released from our sins.

The Greek word that John uses here that we translate "released" (NASB), "freed" (ESV), "loosed" (TPT) is *lyo*. *Lyo* means:

to untie, to set free, to divorce, to demolish, to destroy.

For example; if I am standing on a boat, chained to a concrete block, and someone throws the block into the water, I will need someone to *lyo* me from the block...quickly.

Revelation 1.5 says that Jesus has loosed me from the concrete block of sin that was dragging me to the bottom of hell.

Other instances of loosed in Scripture:

Matthew 21.2 - "Go into the village, and you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loosed (*loosed*) them and bring them to Me."

Mark 7.35 - the deaf and mute man's tongue was loosed - "Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed (*loosed*), and he spoke plainly."

Acts 22.30 - The commander of the prison released (*loosed*) Paul from his prison bonds

John 11.44 - Lazarus - "And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave-clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Loosed (*loosed*) him, and let him go.'"

Luke 13.16 - The woman who had been bound for 18 years was released from the spirit of infirmity - "...ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound for eighteen years, be loosed (*loosed*) from this bond on the Sabbath?"

Acts 2.24 - Peter declaring that Jesus was raised from the dead - "Jesus, whom God raised up, having loosed (*loosed*) the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it."

The love of God has released us from our sin...

in the same way that Jesus was released from death,

in the same way that Paul was set free from his prison chains,

in the same way that Lazarus was divorced from his grave-clothes,

in the same way that the spirit of infirmity was demolished and the woman was released from what bound her for 18 years...

In the very same way, the love of God has separated us from the bondage of our sin.

Even under an inferior covenant King David understood this,

As far as the east is from the west,

So far has He removed our transgressions from us. (**Psalm 103.11-12**)

The Blood

To Him who loves us and has released us from our sins by His BLOOD

Washed in His blood

When scripture talks about us being washed in the blood of Jesus, it uses a Greek tense that is continuously ongoing action. For example, [1 John 1.7](#) says,

“...the blood of Jesus washes us from all sin.”

The tense that the word *washes* is in may sound like the past tense in English, but it is actually the present active tense...meaning it happened, and is STILL happening.

We aren't just cleansed from sin once when we repeat the sinners prayer...the cleansing of His blood is continuous.

Why is this important? Think of it this way; if I took a stone out of the mud and washed it under a water faucet, then returned it to the mud, I could say it was washed...but as soon as its placed back in it's original environment it becomes dirty again. That's not the continuous ongoing washing that we experience in Christ. In the new covenant, we have been taken from the miry clay, but we don't receive a one-time washing then get put back where we came from. We continuously live under the cleansing flow of the Lamb's blood that washes and washes and washes.

This is why it's illegal for anyone who is in Christ to consider themselves unclean. It dishonors the cleansing power of the blood of Jesus. *Before* He found you, you were unclean, no doubt about it...that's clear in passages like [Romans 5:6-10](#) (“you *were* ungodly, you *were* enemies of God, you *were* sinners...”). But woe to any man that calls something unclean that God now says is clean by the blood of His Son.

The cleansing blood of Jesus has

released you from that life of sin,

set you free from that identity as a sinner,

divorced you from the sin nature that you inherited from Adam.

Hebrews 10.17 says that He will remember our sins and lawless deeds no more. Hebrews 10.14 says that we are perfected, sanctified, made holy, consecrated forever by that one offering.

2 Corinthians 5.21 says that He actually became sin for us so that we could become righteous.

This is the power of His sacrifice.

The Resurrection

And the proof that all of this is true, is in the resurrection. Without the resurrection there may be a sacrifice, and there may be blood, but there won't be God's endorsement that the blood of that sacrifice was accepted.

When the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the grave it was an announcement from heaven that the sacrifice was sufficient...that death and sin had been defeated.

Everything in our faith hinges on the resurrection. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 15.14 that if Christ is not raised from the dead then our faith is worthless. The evidence of His love for you is the cross. The proof that love accomplished its goal is the empty tomb.