



## Meditations for the Easter Season 2017

### EASTER WEEK

The meditations this week focus on the victory that Jesus won for us through his resurrection and ascension. In the resurrection, he defeated death and Satan, and offers us new life, the fullness of blessing, and a share in the joy of his victory.

#### **Sun 4/16 | Ps. 118:21-24**

The proclamation of the resurrection victory and of the celebration of the resurrection.

#### **Mon 4/17 | Ac. 2:24-32**

Peter proclaims the resurrection and gives instruction from Ps. 16 about the Easter joy of Jesus—joy in his victory and in being in the presence of God at his right hand.

#### **Tues 4/18 | 1 Pet. 1:3-9**

Our joy in the resurrection—it is the source of new birth for us, and a title to our inheritance.

#### **Wed 4/19 | Ps. 110:1-2**

Jesus' resurrection and ascension are the fulfillment of Ps. 110: He is now king at the right hand of the Father, ruling even in the midst of spiritual warfare.

#### **Thu 4/20 | Col. 3:1-4**

The risen life for us is a life with the Lord Jesus at God's right hand, where we seek the things that are above.

#### **Fri 4/21 | Rev. 1:12-18**

The risen Lord is the priest and the ruler of human history.

#### **Sat 4/22 | Ps. 118:15-16, 26**

The announcement of the victory celebration, and the greeting for the risen Lord that expresses our readiness for his coming again.

THIS YEAR, BETWEEN THE END OF EASTER WEEK AND ASCENSION, THE READINGS AND MEDITATIONS ARE TAKEN FROM THE LETTERS OF PAUL. IN THIS SEASON, AS WE CONSIDER OUR NEW LIFE IN THE RISEN CHRIST, WE WILL LOOK TO THE TEACHING OF THE GREAT APOSTLE IN ORDER TO GAIN GREATER SPIRITUAL INSIGHT INTO CHRIST RISEN AND OUR SHARE IN HIS RESURRECTED LIFE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

WHAT FOLLOWS IS A RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE FOR THE MEDITATIONS, BUT THEY CAN BE ADAPTED TO FIT THE SCHEDULE OF THE INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLD.

WEEK TWO (4/23 – 4/29)

Rom. 6:1-4

Rom. 6:5-11

Rom. 6:12-19

Rom. 6:20-23

Rom. 8:1-8

Rom. 8:9-11

Rom. 8:12-17

WEEK FOUR (5/7 – 5/13)

2 Cor. 3:1-6

2 Cor. 3:7-11

2 Cor. 3:12-18

2 Cor. 4:1-6

2 Cor. 4:7-15

2 Cor. 4:16-18

2 Cor. 5:1-10

WEEK THREE (4/30 – 5/6)

1 Cor. 2:1-10

1 Cor. 2:11-16

1 Cor. 6:9-11

1 Cor. 6:12-20

1 Cor. 12:1-11

1 Cor. 12:12-13; 27-31

1 Cor. 13:1-13

WEEK FIVE (5/14 – 5/20)

Phil. 1:3-14

Phil. 1:19-26

Phil. 2:1-11

Phil. 3:1-11

Phil. 3:12-16

Phil. 4:4-7

Phil. 4:8-13

WEEK SIX (5/21 – 5/24)

Col. 1:9-14

Col. 1:15-20

Col. 2:8-15

Col. 3:12-17

**ASCENSION – PENTECOST.** The meditations for this closing period of the Easter season center on the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in the Christian people, the body of Christ. The gift of the Spirit is the first installment (the pledge) of the kingdom of God and the life of the age to come. Through the Spirit the Lord Jesus, risen and ascended to the right hand of the Father, gives life to, unites, and works through his Church. We now live in him through the Holy Spirit.

**Thu 5/25 | Ac. 2:32-35**

The Holy Spirit is poured out as a result of the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, and is the sign that Jesus is Lord and anointed King.

**Fri 5/26 | Ac. 7:55-56**

The risen Lord is at the Father's right hand, standing as a priest interceding for our salvation.

**Sat 5/27 | Ac. 4:24-31**

The first Christians, engaged in the spiritual warfare of preaching the gospel, pray on the basis of a Psalm prophesying Christ's reign, and are filled with the Holy Spirit to equip them.

**Sun 5/28 | Rev. 22:1-5**

A vision of the end: the reign of God and his Christ is established, and from their throne flows the water of life, the Holy Spirit.

**Mon 5/29 | Jn. 14:15-17, 23**

The risen Lord sends the Holy Spirit to dwell in us, and through his presence, the Father and Son also dwell in us.

**Tue 5/30 | Gal. 4:6-7**

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of sonship, revealing God to us as our Father because of our adoption in the Son.

**Wed 5/31 | Eph. 2:18-22**

God is about building a Temple to his glory in this world, a people in whom he dwells through the Spirit, and a people who have access to his presence through the Spirit.

**Thu 6/1 | Eph. 4:3-6**

The Holy Spirit unites us to the body of Christ, the Temple of God in the world.

**Fri 6/2 | Eph. 1:15-23**

It is the resurrection and ascension of Christ that establish his reign. Paul's prayer is that we might grow in faith by revelation of the greatness of God's power manifested in the resurrection of Christ.

**Sat 6/3 | Rev. 22:16-17, 20**

The bride of Christ, the Church, and the Spirit of God dwelling in the Christian people, pray for the coming again of Jesus to complete his work.

**Sun 6/4 (PENTECOST) | Ps. 104:27-30**

It is the Holy Spirit who gives life, and creates or recreates all living things, including the human race. He is the life-giver, the agent of the New Creation.