

102nd – Bible Seeds Podcast

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Intro Music – “My Father Is So Good To Me”

[written and performed by Carl Vasta]

Hi, my name is Carl Vasta and I would like to welcome you to the Bible Seeds section here, at Understanding God’s Word. This is where I get to comment on biblical readings and stories that brings the bible into what’s happening to us in our daily lives.

I’ll touch on such topics as Family Prayer or Why I Believe There Is A God. I’ll talk about what was predicted that makes these the Terrible Times In The Last Days or how to Have A Daily Meaningful Relationship With God.

Today's topic: **The Meaning Of Easter – Three Examples From Jesus**

The First Example - The Paralyzed Man

Jesus had come back to his own town of Capernaum after teaching in other towns, and a crowd had assembled at the house where He was teaching. There were teachers of religious law, Scribes and Pharisees present among the people who came to listen to Jesus. Some men brought a man who was paralyzed to Jesus, but couldn’t near the house because of the crowd of people.

They brought him up to the roof of that house and lowered him down on his mat to Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralyzed man, **“My son, your sins are forgiven.”** The scripture says that though the Scribes and the Pharisees kept it to themselves, Jesus was aware that they were asking themselves, **“Why does this man talk this way?”**

He is speaking as if He were God! He is committing blasphemy! God is the only one who can forgive sins!"

Jesus said to them, ***"Why are thinking these things? Which is easier to say to this paralyzed man? Your sins are forgiven or to say get up, pick up your mat and walk. So that you may know that the Son of Man has the authority on Earth to forgive sins," He said to the man who was paralyzed, "I tell you, get up, pick up your mat and go home." And while they all watched, the man got up, picked up his mat and went outside in site of everyone.***

The people were completely amazed and praised God saying, ***"We have never see anything like this."***

This reading came from the New Testament, The book of Mark, Chapter 2: verses 1-12, also found in the book of Matthew, Chapter 9: verses 9-13 and Luke, Chapter 5: verses 17-26.

The Meaning Of Easter – Three Examples From Jesus **Second Example – Jesus Brings Lazarus Back To Life**

A friend of Jesus named Lazarus was sick and about to die. The sisters of Lazarus, Martha and Mary sent word to Jesus to come and heal him, but He stayed where He was two more days, saying to His disciples, ***"The final result of this sickness will not be the death of Lazarus. This happened in order to bring glory to God and will be the means by which the Son of God will receive glory."*** [All could believe that God sent His Son Jesus and gave Him authority over death!]

Jesus told His disciples He was going to Judea because Lazarus had fallen asleep and He was going to wake Him. The disciples reminded Jesus that the people in that area wanted to stone him and if Lazarus was just sleeping, he would wake up.

So Jesus told them plainly, ***“Lazarus is dead! But for your sake, I’m glad that I was not with him so that you will believe!”***

Lazarus had been buried four days when Jesus had arrived and many Judeans had come to comfort Martha and Mary. When Martha heard Jesus was there, she went out to meet Him while Mary remained in the house. Martha said to Jesus, ***“If you had been here Lord, my brother would not have died, but I know that even now, God will give you what ever you ask him for.”***

“Your brother will rise to life, Jesus told her.”

“I know”, she replied, “that He will rise to life on the last day!”

Jesus said to her, ***I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live even though he dies. And whoever lives and believes in me, will never die! Do you believe this?***

“Yes Lord”, she answered, “I do believe that you are the Messiah, the Son Of God who was to come into the world!”

Then Martha went back and told Mary that Jesus was asking for her. She hurried to meet him and the people who were there followed her. She met Jesus with the same words, ***“If you had been here, my brother would not have died!”*** And the people who followed her echoed the same words.

Scripture says that when He saw her crying and heard what she said, He wept too. But the scripture also says that he was troubled in spirit because of their unbelief!

Jesus asked where Lazarus was buried and had them remove the large stone covering the cave. Martha told Jesus that there would be a bad

odor because Lazarus had been buried four days ago!

Jesus said to her, ***“Didn’t I tell you that you would see God’s glory if you believed?”*** Then Jesus looked up and said, ***“I thank you Father that you listen to me. I know that you always listen to me, but I say this for the sake of the people here, so that they will believe that you sent me.”*** After He said this, He called out in a loud voice. ***“Lazarus, come out!”*** ***HE CAME OUT!*** His hands and his feet wrapped with strips of linen and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, ***“Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”***

This reading is found in the New Testament, the book of John, Chapter 11: verses 1-44.

Many people who saw what Jesus had done, put their faith in him and some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. The Pharisees plotted to kill Jesus and even Lazarus because they worried that the Roman authorities would take action to destroy the Temple and the nation of Israel.

This reading is found in the New Testament, book of John, Chapter 11:verses 45-57

The Meaning Of Easter – Three Examples From Jesus **Third Example – The Unbelief Of The Disciple Thomas**

Jesus was put to death by crucifixion because He posed a threat to the chief priests and elders of the people. They were worried that Rome would see Jesus as a new popular leader who would start an uprising against their occupation of Israel. This in turn could cause the Roman army to destroy not only the Temple, but the nation of Israel.

A rich man named Joseph of Arimathea came secretly to Pilate, the

Roman governor, to beg for the body of Jesus. He had just had a new tomb carved out in large rock for himself that was in the garden, near the crucifixion site and Pilate agreed to let Joseph have the body of Jesus. Joseph, along with another man named Nicodemus wrapped Jesus in clean linen strips with perfumed oils made from a mixture of Myrrh and Aloes and laid him in the tomb.

On what is now referred to as Easter Sunday, the third day from when Jesus was buried, it was discovered that Jesus had risen from death and left the Roman guarded tomb. He had appeared to two women who came to see the tomb and saw the large rock rolled away from the entrance and to two disciples walking on the road to a small village seven miles away from Jerusalem. When Jesus left them, they went back to Jerusalem to tell the other disciples how Jesus had talked and ate with them.

By now the other disciples knew that Jesus' body was not in the tomb, and they did not believe the story by the women about Jesus' appearance to them. The scripture says, '. . . as yet they did not understand the scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead. They locked themselves in their homes, afraid the Jews would come after them because they were disciples of Jesus.

While they were talking together, Jesus appeared to them saying, ***"Peace be with you", and He opened their minds to the scripture and imparted the Holy Spirit upon them saying, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."*** One of the disciples named Thomas was not there and when the other disciples told him what happened, he said, ***"I will never believe it without seeing and feeling the holes in His hands where they nailed Him to the cross and the wound in His side, where the Roman spear pierced His body."***

A week later, when the disciples were all together, Jesus came and

stood before them, saying, **"Peace be with you", and then he said to Thomas, "Take your finger and examine My hands. Put your hand into My side. Do not persist in your unbelief, but believe!"**

Thomas said, "My Lord and my God!"

Then Jesus said to him, "You became a believer because you saw Me. Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed!"

This reading from the New Testament; the book of John, Chapter 19: verses 38-42 and Chapter 20: verses 1-29. It is also found in the book of Matthew, Chapter 27: verses 57-66 and Mark, Chapters 15: verses 42-47 and Chapter 16: verses 1-19 and Luke, Chapters 23: verses 50-56 and Chapter 24.

Back Ground Music Starts and

I would like you to know how much GOD loves you. He is ready and waiting to help you. You just need to believe that He exists and has created all things and has given **His Son Jesus, the good shepherd** to bring you back to him.

This is why I put together these pod casts, starting with **The Storyline Of The Bible**, 19 easy understandable pod casts that take you from Genesis, the first book of the bible- to Revelation, the last book of the bible.

And beyond that, there are **The Stories And Quotes From Jesus**, which will help you to strengthen your faith in God. And now I have just added these **Bible Seeds: Understanding God's Word** my commentary on some of these readings.

You can find all of this and print out the **PDFs** for **Storyline Of The Bible** and **Quotes and Stories from Jesus**. You can download the MP3s, Videos, and my original music from my website: www.carlvasta.com

Everything is free and there are no sign ups. Enjoy!

Ending The Program

This is your host Carl Vasta and I thank you for tuning in to Bible Seeds at Understanding God's Word.

New podcasts are released on Sundays at 12:30PM Pacific Coast Time. *God bless you and your loved ones and remember. . .*