

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: **JESUS’ THREE DAYS IN THE TOMB**

Joseph of Arimathea was given permission by Pilate to take the body of Jesus’ and give it a burial in a new tomb he had just prepared for himself.

In the **book of John, Chapter 19, verse 39**, ***“Joseph and another disciple named Nicodemus, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.”*** The Jews prepared a body for burial like they were taught when they lived in Egypt, and now it was their custom to use a mixture of myrrh and aloes to bind the body with strips of linen, and it would be wet until it solidified. . . . or like a mummy!

This is probably what the apostles saw in the tomb, an empty shell without a body! And they believed! What happened to Jesus during the three days before the tomb was opened is not immediately told in a story form but is discovered in other readings.

You may recall what Jesus told the thief on the cross, who asked to be remembered when He came into His Kingdom. Jesus said at **Luke 23: verse 43**, ***“Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”***

But remember on the third day after Jesus’ resurrection, He met Mary in the garden and she held on to Him and He said to her at; **John 20: verse 17**, ***“Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father and to My God and your God.’”***

[SPOILER] (Jesus also ascended into heaven forty days after His resurrection with the apostles watching. What they didn’t see was, along with His ascension, the graves were opened and all who died before, who were faithful, were taken with Him to Heaven.)

There were two angels there who told them He would return in the same fashion at this spot. The apostles knew that the resurrected Jesus was not a ghost because He ate and drank with them and had a real physical presence, inviting them to inspect His wounds!

ABOUT “ABRAHAM’S BOSOM”

Jesus told a parable about a “A rich man and a beggar named Lazarus”. The one strange thing about this parable is that He names a person, “Lazarus” and out of all the parables he taught, He never used the name of anyone! So this parable seems special among all the others. It is where He describes a place called “*Sheol*” or “*Hades*”. ***(the place of the dead or the place of the departed souls and spirits)***

The Rich Man and Lazarus

“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day. At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores and longing to eat what fell from the rich man’s table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.

“The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham’s side – (Abraham’s Bosom). The rich man also died and was buried in Hades – (Hell), where he was in torment. He looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.

So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’

“But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’

“He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family, for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’

“Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’

““No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’

“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

(Luke 16: verses 19-26)

In the 3rd century, **Hippolytus of Rome**, writes about Abraham's Bosom where the righteous await judgment day in delight!

As to the state of righteousness, he writes, *"And there the righteous from the beginning dwell, not ruled by necessity but enjoying always the contemplation of the blessings which are in their view, and delighting themselves with the expectation of others which are ever new, and deeming those better than ever these. OR [better than us who are already here]*

And that place brings no toil to them. There, there is neither fierce heat nor cold, nor thorn, but the face of the fathers and the righteous is seen to be always smiling, as they wait for the rest and eternal revival in heaven which succeed (or succeeds) this location. And we call it by the name Abraham's Bosom".

So, Paradise is Abraham's Bosom and Jesus, and the thief from the cross, descended down to Paradise to address those who have been waiting for this day!

When you hear other so-called pastors and some false teachers saying that Christ went to Hell and suffered for three days, know that He was giving hope and good news of His salvation to those who died in faith. And as far as His well being, we look at the book of Luke at **Acts, Chapter 2: verse 27**, that David said in Psalms about Him, ***'Because you will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will you allow Your Holy One to see corruption.'***

Jesus said about Himself at **book of John, Chapter 11: verses 25-26** when He raised Lazarus to life, who was in the tomb four days.

"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. . ."

And after Jesus descended to Paradise, He descended to a lower part of Hades; and this is told by scripture in the **book of Ephesians, Chapter 4: verses 9-10**, where the apostle Paul tells us,

(“Now this, He ascended . . . what does that mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above the heavens that He might fill all things.”)

‘He filled all things’. He went up **‘above the heavens’** and was seated at the right hand of the Father and He went down into Hades and He went even lower yet! So now we find out that Jesus had descended to lowest part of Hades, proclaimed He had come and redeemed the ‘Old Testament Saints from Abraham’s Bosom.

In **the book of 1st Peter, Chapter 3: verses 18-20**, Peter writes, ***“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, who formerly were disobedient, when once the long suffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls were saved through water.”***

We have another clue to who the spirits in prison were that Jesus preached to and were formerly disobedient in the days of Noah. We turn to the **book of Jude, there is only one Chapter: and at verse 6**, it says, ***“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own habitation, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;”***

And now we have to ask, What took place in the days of Noah that would cause this group of spirits to have such a singular judgment that they would be put in the lowest compartment of Hell and reserved

under darkness in chains for the great day? This question has been asked by many pastors and other religious teachers and the answer is found in **verse 7**, which says, ***“as Sodom and Gomorrah, and cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”***

So these angels left their spiritual domain and became human – ‘Men of Old’ who took the earthly women for their wives. We find this in scripture at the **book of Genesis, Chapter 6: verses 1-4**,

“Now it came to pass when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.”

“And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not ‘strive’ with men forever, for he is indeed flesh, yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

The Lord reduced the number of years humans would live from a thousand to a hundred and twenty!

“There were giants on the earth in those days and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. These were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.”

The Lord was sorry that He made both man and beast and His intent was to destroy it all. ***“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.”***

After Jesus proclaims the completion of God’s victory over Satan to those in the lowest part of Hell called Tartarus, Jesus returns to

Paradise to empty out Abraham's Bosom and take all those who are waiting with Him and ascends to Heaven and He is seated at the right hand of the Father.

At the **book of Matthew, Chapter 27: verses 52-53**, we are told that when ***Jesus cried out on the cross with a loud voice, "Father, 'Into Your hands I commend My spirit'" and breathed His last. "And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked and the rocks were split, and the graves were opened and many bodies of the saints also who had fallen asleep were raised. And coming out of the graves after His resurrection, they went into the city and appeared to many."***

Jesus ascended into heaven forty days after His resurrection with the apostles watching. What they didn't see was, along with His ascension, were all who died before, who were faithful and were taken with Him to Heaven. **At Ephesians, Chapter 4: verse 8**, Paul says about Jesus, ***"When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."***

At **the book of Acts Chapter 1: verses 8-11**, Jesus tells His apostles before He ascends, ***"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."***

After he said this, He was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid Him from their sight.

They were looking intently up into the sky as He was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen Him go into heaven."

The Apostle Paul in **the book of 1st Corinthians, Chapter 2: verses 7-12**, tells us, **“But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom of which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.”** But as it written : **‘Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.’”**

“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of [another] man except the Spirit which is in him? Even so, no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that been freely given to us by God.”

Paul also wrote to the Corinthian Church about

THE FOOLISHNESS OF THE CROSS

“For the message about Christ’s death on the cross is nonsense to those who are being lost; but for us who are being saved it is God’s power. The scripture says,

‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise

and set aside the understanding of the scholars.’

Old Testament, Isaiah, Chapter 29: verse 14

“So then, where does that leave the wise? Or the scholars? Or the skillful debaters of this world? God has shown that is world’s wisdom is foolishness! For God in His wisdom made it impossible to know Him by means of their own wisdom. Instead, by means of the foolish message we preach, God decided to save those who believe.”

“Jews want miracles for proof, and Greeks look for wisdom. As for us, we proclaim the crucified Christ, a message that is offensive to the Jews and nonsense to the Gentiles, but for those whom God has called, both Jews and Gentiles, this message is Christ, who is the power of God and the wisdom of God. For what seems to be God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom and what seems to be God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.”

New Testament, 1st Corinthians, Chapter 1: verses 18-25

Ending The Program - *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.

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Ending The Program

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

God bless you and your loved ones and remember. . .