

## EASTER - JESUS TO THE RESCUE!

April 16, 2017 Easter 2017 by Bob Branch

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**BIG IDEA:** The Resurrection is the climax of God's search and rescue story and infuses our lives with hope and power as we walk with him.

***"Father, I'm going in. Into the darkness to rescue them."***

### 1. God CAME NEAR. The God of love entered our world in Jesus to rescue us. (*Incarnation*)

"You were living in your sins and lawless ways. But in fact you were dead." **Ephesians 2:1-2** NIV (Rom. 5:17, 21; 6:6, 16-20; John 8:34; 1 John 3:8)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was face to face with God, and the Word was God... and the Word became *flesh* and took up residence among us" **John 1:1, 14**

"flesh" here is "*sarx*." (not *anthropos*)

### 2. Jesus came INTO OUR DARKNESS and took all of it into himself on the cross.

"He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross" **1 Pet 2:24** <sup>NLT</sup> (Jn. 1:29)

"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay." **Matthew 28:6** (*to the 2 Marys, he said*)

***"He is not here... come and see the place here he lay"***

***"He has risen"***

***"Just as he said"***

### 3. HE ROSE, he lives, he reigns and is personally here today giving life to all who turn to him.

"Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God." **1 Peter 3:18** NIV84

"Because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions" **Eph 2:4-5**

### Resurrection defined them!

- **The Lord's Day** changed!
- **Death no longer has the final word**
- **Resurrection infused them with victory.**
- **Sins chains were broken...** a New Creation
- **Jesus came and got us in death.**