## "His Word is Truth"

On Friday, April 7th, many Christians around the world observed a sacred day known as Good Friday – the day when God's Son allowed Himself



to be crucified and killed in our place of punishment. In other words, no one forced Jesus to be crucified. He gave His life willingly as an atoning

sacrifice for our sins so that we sinners can be forgiven through repentance and faith in Him. (See Isaiah 53:4-6; Matthew 20:28; John 10:17-18; Acts 2:22-23 & 20:28; Romans 3:21-28; 1st Corinthians 15:3; 2nd Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; Colossians 1:19-20; 1st Peter 2:22-25)

On Sunday, April 9th, many Christians around the world will celebrate the physical resurrection of Jesus' body from the grave - thus fulfilling Jesus' own prophecy which He spoke to His apostles in advance. In Matthew 16:21 it savs: "From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

The physical resurrection of Jesus is the proof that Jesus is the eternal Son of God in human flesh who died on the cross in our place of judgment. In fact, if Jesus did NOT rise from the dead, then He was NOT God and His death is meaningless. As Paul writes in 1st Corinthians chapter 15: "... if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are

lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep."

Simply put, Good Friday and Easter Sunday go together – and we can't have one without the other! The good news is that the One who willingly died on the cross for our sins also conquered death for us when He rose from the grave on the third dav after His death. In fact, the main reason most Christians gather for worship on Sunday is that Sunday is the day Jesus rose from the dead. So, EVERY Sunday is a celebration of the fact that Jesus LIVES!

All of Holy Scripture – from Genesis to Revelation - is ultimately about God's plan to rescue us rebellious sinners from the eternal judgment we deserve. Sadly, some choose to doubt God's Word, affirm their sins and reject God's salvation. But God doesn't want that for any person. Therefore, after His resurrection, Jesus said the following to His disciples: "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things." In my next article I will give the historical evidence for the resurrection of Jesus!