*Thursday, March 24, 2011*

**It Takes Two**

Luke 16:22-23 And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried; (23) And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom. (KJV)

We talked yesterday about Jesus of Nazareth and the place that he said he would end up in once he died on the cross. Given the fact that the sacrifice for mankind was not yet totally paid and didn’t just end on the cross, we see paradise being described as Abraham’s bosom. We see also another place described which is lower than this place, which is described as hell, not a place that God intended for His creation to end up in.

Psalms 16:9-11 Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. (10) For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. (11) Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (KJV)

Christ the Son of God went to hell on behalf of mankind, so that He could pay the Spiritual price for mankind and bring reconciliation to a fallen world. Jesus of Nazareth spent three days and three nights in paradise with those of the Old Testament until God resurrected Christ from this pit.

1 Peter 3:18-20 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: (19) By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; (20) Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. (KJV)

You know, those that were in prison were the ones that were disobedient, because we know that in the time of Noah only eight souls were saved. Can you imagine the torment of the Son of God being in the same place with the rest of these prisoners, and how that must have grieved Him to see these people who had a hundred and twenty years to repent before the flood? How it must grieve our Lord today to see so many of His people who are blinded by the veil on their heart, who only see the outward things and not the inward things of God that are revealed through the knowledge of His Son.

Acts 10:38-40 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him. (39) And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: (40) Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; (KJV)

Christ is the power of God, so you can’t have one without the other. There is more to this man Jesus of Nazareth than meets the eye, and there was someone else God was now revealing to His people.

John 20:29-31 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. (30) And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: (31) But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name. (KJV)

Your search for truth and enlightenment into the scriptures will no longer be found in the outward realm or vision, rather it will take a new insight into the realm of the Spirit to give an accurate account of our Lord and His plan of salvation. Do you believe that Jesus is the Christ, and that is the only name that will bring life to your Spirit?

Luke 24:44-47 And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. (45) Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, (46) And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: (47) And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (KJV)

Again we see the word ‘should’ used; that everyone of God’s people should come to a working knowledge of who they are in Christ, and all that is available through the complete name given for our benefit.