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50th Anniversary



Chaplain Ray

April, 2022

Dear Friends of IPM,

It is such a glorious truth that our resurrected Savior lives in and through His followers. For over 2,000 years, Jesus's death, burial, and resurrection has been the foundation of hope for those who have put their faith and trust in Him.

As Christians, we have been born again into a living hope. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead"* (1 Peter 1:3). Because of the resurrection, real hope is available to us. This unique hope the Lord provides for us is a living hope which resides in Jesus Himself. This is a hope that pulsates with resurrection life which is able to raise us from any agonizing deadness, whether in our hearts or in our circumstances.

Jesus brought this hope to Mary and Martha after the death of their brother Lazarus. Martha knew of the final resurrection of the saints and declared, *"I know that he (Lazarus) shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day"* (John 11:24). Jesus responded to her with these great words: *"I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live"* (John 11:25). Jesus was letting her know that faith in Him could even bring the dead to life, like Lazarus. Also faith in Him can ensure eternal life to those who are yet alive. Jesus provides both resurrection and life, because in His very person is resurrection life. He is the resurrection that we all need from our deadness, whether physical or spiritual.

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The Apostle Paul knew the importance of the Resurrection as it applies to our Christian walk and ministry. *"But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen. And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain"* (1 Corinthians 15:13-14). Paul had witnessed first-hand the risen Savior on his way to Damascus and had thereafter witnessed God's resurrection power at work in his life. Therefore, his life and ministry were anchored in the fact that Jesus Christ had risen from the dead.

Here at IPM, as we minister to those outside or inside prison walls, we also know the importance of proclaiming the risen King, who is our living hope. When prisoners write to us, we find that they are so eager to hear the good news of this living hope and are so grateful to see His resurrection power at work in their own lives. We thank the Lord for all who partner with us in reaching out to touch those lives with God's truth and love.

Proclaiming Jesus, Our Risen Lord,



Heidi Hoekstra-Ceballos

(for all of our "Chaplain Ray Family" and the IPM team)

P.S. Our appreciation gift this month is [Passport to Heaven](#) by Marguerite Farison.

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