

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Filling in the Gaps – Lesson 3
What is Easter?

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Easter is celebrated as the day the Jesus Christ rose from the dead. Easter and Christmas are holidays when people who do not normally attend church, go to church, to thank God for all the good things that they have received. During these special times many people get closer to God. It is so very sad that these people do not take the opportunity daily to draw near to God and thank Him every day. Psalms 73:28; James 4:8. The Bible tells us to thank God everyday Psalms 136:1, 2, 3, 26; Colossians 1:3; Ephesians 1:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

Historically, Easter was not created by the Christians; it was a pagan holiday, not to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ but rather to give honor to the fertility goddess "Ishtar." In Acts 12:4 is the first and only time Easter is mentioned in the Bible. This was during a time when the Apostles had just started to preach the Gospel, of which they were not happily accepted by all, hardly a time when the whole city would be coming together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Shown in these verses, they were being cast into prison for preaching the resurrection.

Haven't you ever wondered what rabbits, eggs, and new dresses for the women have to do with Easter?

One more small point then we will discuss Jesus. The Bible tells us to celebrate His death; Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25. It does not tell us to celebrate His birth or His resurrection.

Why did Jesus have to die? For the answer we have to bring our attention back to the beginning. Genesis 2:7 ***And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.*** 1 Corinthians 15:45 ***And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.*** The first man Adam was made, he was not God; Adam was made he was a created being, formed by God out of the dust of the ground. The Bible says in Genesis God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and that man became a living soul. Notice the Bible says, the last Adam... not the second, or the next, but the last Adam. The last Adam was made a quickening spirit. God the Father made the body of Lord Jesus Christ and within that body was a quickening spirit. The word quickening means life giving. Just as Adam was given power by God to reproduce what he was a physical being with physical life. Jesus Christ had the power within Himself to reproduce what He is a spiritual being with spiritual life. You either have Adam for your father or you have Christ for your father. You are either in Adam or you are in Christ. You either have had one birth or you have had two births.

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Here is the proof that we came from Adam; The Bible says in Romans chapter 5 and verse 12... *Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:* If sin came into the world by Adam then everyone has received sin from Adam. Until you meet somebody that does not sin (from birth)...you will never have life in Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:13-14 *(For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.* Everybody shows themselves to have inherited Adam's inclination toward yielding to sin; they prove it every single day of their lives by sinning. The blessing is we have in this verse 14 a promise that someone is going to show up whom Adam prefigured; that would be the start of a brand new order of beings.

Jesus Christ did not replace Adam. Jesus came along in addition to Adam to be the superior one to Adam. The last Adam can give you a birth that is greater than the birth you received from the first Adam. Romans 5:14-15 *Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.* How is Adam the figure of him that was to come? Adam gave birth to a corruptible dead race. Verse 15 *But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.* The last Adam gave birth to an incorruptible living race. 1 Peter 1:23 *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

You are still going to die because you came from Adam. But you are still going to live because you came from Jesus Christ. The death I receive from Adam continues to work in my members until eventually this body dies. If I had never been born again, that death is eternal. If I am born again the last Adam steps in and says, he is mine, He raises us from the dead to enjoy eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. 1 John 2:1; Romans 3:25; 1 John 4:10.

Let us compare the generations of Adam to the generation of Jesus Christ. Look at Genesis 5:1-31. *This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him; 2 Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.* Now watch. Verse 3. *And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after HIS image; and called his name Seth:* Something happened. Adam's offspring are not born in God's likeness. They are born in Adam's likeness. They're not born with the image of God; they are born with the image of Adam because they're a triune being

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but the soul is dead in trespasses and sins and must be regenerated by having a new birth. Watch in the book of the generation of Adam. Verse 4 says... *And the days of Adam after he had begotten Seth were eight hundred years: and he begat sons and daughters: 5 And all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years: and he died. 6 And Seth lived an hundred and five years.... Verse 8. ...and he died. 9 And Enos lived ninety years, and begat Cainan: Verse 11. ...and he died. 12 And Cainan lived seventy years, and begat Mahalaleel: Verse 14. ...and he died.* You read that whole chapter in Adam, all die. *And he died... and he died... and he died... and he died... and he died.* Turn to Matthew. There is only one other book of generations in all the word of God. There are other genealogies - but there are only two books that speak of the **generation** Genesis and Matthew. Matthew chapter 1. Verse 1. *The book of the generation of Jesus Christ.... Old Testament – Adam. New Testament – in Christ. You are in one or the other. I am so glad I have had a second birth. Let me show you why. Verse 1. The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. 2 Abraham begat Isaac; and Isaac begat Jacob; and Jacob begat Judas and his brethren; 3 And Judas begat Phares and Zara of Thamar; and Phares begat Esrom; and Esrom begat Aram; 4 And Aram begat Aminadab; and Aminadab begat Naasson; and Naasson begat Salmon; 5 And Salmon begat Booz of Rachab; and Booz begat Obed of Ruth; and Obed begat Jesse;* Look at what the difference is between Genesis and Matthew, nobody in the book of the generations of Jesus Christ dies. The Holy Spirit who inspired the word of God knew how this was to be written in the Old Testament and the New Testament to show you what He is going to teach you in the Gospels and the Epistles. If you have a first birth, it is from Adam. From Adam you are born in sin, trespasses, you are going to die, there is nothing you can do to stop that. There is nothing you can do to reverse that Hebrews 9:27. But if you will receive a second birth from the Last Adam the Lord Jesus Christ, you can get life in your soul that never dies... Hallelujah! What a blessing!

The resurrection of Jesus Christ, was it fact or fiction?

Throughout history many have tried to prove that the resurrection was an elaborate hoax cooked up by His followers, let's examine the facts and then you decide.

Jesus hinted to his disciples that He was going to die and rise from the dead. Matthew 16:21; Matthew 17:9; Matthew 22:31; Mark 9:10; others. On the eve of His abduction He told His disciples that He was going to be arrested then crucified. The disciples reacted in anger remarking that they would not let such a thing happen to Jesus. See Luke 22; John 13. Remember how Peter even rebuked the Lord, saying that he would even die for Christ?

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What really happened, the disciples fell asleep in the garden as Jesus prayed, Peter woke to find a mob coming to arrest Jesus, Peter then drew his sword and cut off the right ear of a servant of the high priest John 18:10 then after the centurions took Jesus they all fled for their lives. Peter followed the arresting group to see what would become of Jesus, until he was recognized by a young maiden as being a follower of Jesus, Peter's response was to curse and swear denying that he ever knew Jesus.

Unlike the pictures we usually see of Jesus during this time of year. Jesus was brutally beaten, the Bible said His face was so marred, more than any other man Isaiah 52:14 His back was whipped so as to resemble a plowed field with long deep furrows Psalms 29:3; All his bones were out of joint, Psalms 22:14 His hands and His feet nailed to a wooden cross, Psalms 22:16, He was betrayed by a close friend Psalms 41:9. All His friends forsook Him Matthew 26:56; Mark 14:50. Yet as He hung on that cross in pure agony Jesus said Luke 23:34 ***Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.***

His disciples ran scared, yet something miraculous happen after Jesus' resurrection, Let's see.

The disciples were all gathered together in a room with the doors shut for fear of the Jews and Jesus walks in. John 20:19 Jesus says behold my hand and my feet, handle me John 20:27. After they had received the promised Holy Spirit, these once scared frightened disciples went out and told the world about Jesus Christ they did not care what happen to them as long as they proclaimed their Saviour The Lord Jesus Christ. Why did they become so bold, why did they allow themselves to be beaten, stoned imprisoned and eventually killed for preaching Jesus Christ?

The Resurrection!

Why not celebrate Easter the way God would like you to do, JESUS CHRIST is ready, willing, and able to cleanse you from all your sin, to forgive all your transgressions and to give YOU everlasting life. If you will but believe upon Him and trust Him, He will save your soul and give you eternal life.

notes

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Name _____

Note: must include scripture with all your answers, including the T/F.

1. Why did Jesus have to die?
2. What were the pagans actually celebrating and calling it Easter?
3. Who was the first Adam?
4. Who was the last Adam?
5. What is the best benefit about being in Christ?
6. When Jesus was arrested and taken away, what disciple did not forsake Him?
7. What changed the disciple's attitude after Jesus was crucified?
8. Who was the first gardener in the Bible? (hint: Genesis 3)

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9. When Jesus saw Mary weeping at the sepulcher, who did Mary think He was? (hint: John 20)

10. How badly was Jesus beaten after He was arrested?

11. As Jesus hung on that cruel cross who was He thinking about?

12. What is a quickening spirit?

13. In regards to Jesus Christ, what days are we commanded to celebrate?

14. Explain the difference between the generation of Jesus Christ and the generations of Adam.

True/false

- Jesus Christ alone is the only way to go to heaven.
- Adam was a living soul, The last Adam was a quickening spirit
- In Adam all die, In Christ all are made alive.

**Scripture memorization**

1 Corinthians 15:45; Romans 5:12; Luke 23:34

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

Any questions?