



# Growing Faith

## 10 - Easter | 31 March 2022

### A thought for Easter

Written by Mr C J Pountain (Head of RE)

I am grateful to Daniel Ley (Y10) and his team for giving me the chance to write the main article this time for this excellent, half-termly 'Growing Faith' publication from our pupils. With an emphasis on Easter in this edition, I want to focus on the often-overlooked day between Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Holy Saturday! What was Jesus doing on this day? Perhaps we find it difficult to answer this question because traditionally, most Holy Week services finish on Good Friday and start up again on Easter Sunday!

There is a fascinating passage in the book of 1 Peter that gives us a helpful insight here:

**“The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe.”**

John 19:35

**“...He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah....”**

1 Peter 3:18-20

Jesus was clearly very active between Good Friday and Easter Sunday, in the world of the dead: preaching! In my simplistic way, I imagine Peter meeting with Jesus on that first Sunday morning and saying:

**“Where on earth have you been Jesus?”**

**Jesus might reply: “I haven’t been on earth, I’ve been in the world of the departed.”**

**“Well, what on earth (or what in Hades!) have you been doing for 3 days and 3 nights?”**

So, Jesus explains that he has been preaching to the dead of Noah’s flood, who were fully conscious, with all their faculties, including memory. So was Jesus, and so shall we be: fully aware of who we are, from one moment after death. Our bodies die, but our spirits are immortal. Jesus, like all of us, was an embodied spirit until he died on the Cross. Then he commended His spirit to God, and his body was put in the tomb. Alive in the spirit, he went and preached to those disobedient people from Noah’s flood. Then his body and spirit were reunited on Easter Sunday morning, but he was fully conscious and able to communicate all the way through. Death separates body and spirit but spirit and body will later be reunited in resurrection.

### Song for the Reflection



**“Raise a Hallelujah  
(feat. Praise Lubangu & Trumpet Pete)”**

Perhaps this strange passage can be explained by God’s nature: He is perfectly just. There was arguably one generation who could legitimately point their fingers at God on the day of judgement and say “you’re not fair” – those who died in Noah’s flood, because God promised never to do the same again. God was not prepared to allow this and so sent His Son, as a one-off, to give that generation and that generation only, a second chance. Amazing!

As we read this today may John, the author of the 4th Gospel’s true testimony fulfil it’s stated purpose in us. May we too believe in this same death and Hell-defeating, perfectly just, Resurrected Jesus.

## Teen Tip

By Martha, Year 7:

**I have learnt that God loves everyone and everything just the way you are.**

So, it doesn't matter if you are the most popular person with loads of friends or a person with just a few friends. God loves you whatever you do. He sent his own son to save us and to forgive our sins. He shows us the way to live and would prefer us to follow the commandments of life but if we struggle and fail, He will pick us up and love us for trying.

**“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”**

- Romans 5:8

## School Song

**Why not sing along to ‘Just as I am’ as we worship together.**



## A Prayer

By Mrs Pollock:

We offer our prayers to you, Lord, and pray in gratitude for the gift of salvation that Jesus won for us.

As our days get busier, may we never stray far from the quiet peace you offer to all of us, and what we feel in our hearts, knowing how deep your love is for all of us, as children of God.

**Amen**

## Church Support

### Church Services

Please visit these church websites to see when their services are taking place:

Great Harwood Christian Fellowship: [Website](#)

St John's and St Augustine's Church, Huncoat: [YouTube channel](#)

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Rishton: [Facebook Page](#)

St. John's Church, Baxenden: [Website](#)

Peel Street Baptist Church: [Website](#)

All Saints Church, Clayton-le-Moors: [Facebook Page](#)

St James' Church, Clitheroe: [Website](#)


Burnley Life Church: [Website](#)

St Mary Magdalen's Church, Accrington: [Website](#) / [Facebook Page](#)

St Andrew's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)

St Peter's Church, Accrington: [Website](#)



 **Queens Road West  
Accrington  
Lancashire  
BB5 4AY**

 **01254 232 992**  
 **[c.pountain@st-christophers.org](mailto:c.pountain@st-christophers.org)**

 **[www.st-christophers.org](http://www.st-christophers.org)**

