

APRIL 10, 2020

NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH

WEEK 3 NEWSLETTER

WORDS FROM DR. ROBERTS

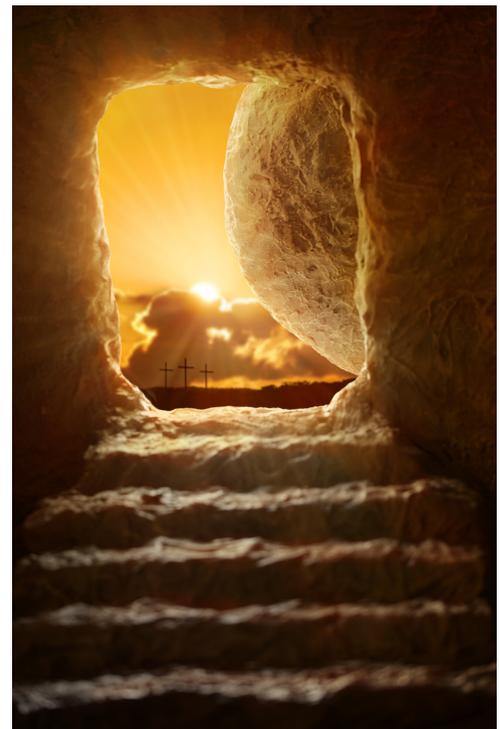
RESURRECTION SUNDAY

This Sunday we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which is also called Easter Sunday. Easter is not a Biblical term but comes from the pagan Anglo-Saxon “goddess of light” (Eostre). The pagan celebration involved the worship of the sun and goddess of fertility. The pagan worshipers would face the east (Easter), the direction of the sunrise, as they worshiped.

The early church took over the pagan celebration, “baptized it”, and gave it new meaning (the resurrection of Jesus). While Easter can have various meanings for different people groups, “Resurrection Sunday” has only one meaning for those who believe in Jesus. Note the definition of the gospel in I Cor. 15:3-4. Christ died for our sins, was buried, and rose again on the third day.

This Sunday our celebration will be a little different. There will be no sunrise service, fellowship breakfast, and no regular church service, but it still will be “Resurrection Sunday”. The Bible does not mandate a resurrection celebration, but the early church began to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection on Sunday, the day God raised Him from the grave. This Sunday we will remember and celebrate Jesus’ death on the cross and His resurrection in our homes. Even though we can’t meet in public worship, we will worship in our homes and remember that Jesus willingly gave his life for our sins, was killed by his enemies, and God raised him from the dead. I will worship and celebrate my Lord Jesus Christ. He is risen!
He is risen indeed!

Dr. Robert V. Roberts



Happy Birthday!



APRIL 10
KANTYN PRETTY

APRIL 14
MARY ANN WILSON

*Happy
Anniversary!*

April 16

*Joe & Marlene
Nickerson*

*Logan & Kayla
Nickerson*



Think About the First Easter

“The very first Easter was not in a crowded worship space with singing and praising.

On the very first Easter the disciples were locked in their house. It was dangerous for them to come out. They were afraid. They wanted to believe the good news they heard from the women, that Jesus had risen. But it seemed too good to be true.

They were living in a time of such despair and such fear. If they left their homes their lives and the lives of their loved ones might be at risk. Could a miracle really have happened? Could life really have won out over death? Could this time of terror and fear really be coming to an end? Alone in their homes they dared to believe that hope was possible, that the long night was over and morning had broken, that God’s love was the most powerful of all, even though it didn’t seem quite real yet.

Eventually, they were able to leave their homes. When the fear and danger had subsided, they went around celebrating and spreading the good news that Jesus was risen and love was the most powerful force on the earth!

This year, we might get to experience a taste of what that first Easter was like, still in our homes daring to believe that hope is on the horizon. Then, after a while, when it is safe for all people, when it is the most loving choice, we will come out, gathering together, singing and shouting the good news that God brings life even out of death, that love always has the final say!

This year we might get the closest taste we have had yet to what that first Easter was like.