

Notes on Last Sunday's Message

JOHN 20

LIFE. We have a friend whose name is Jesus, who rose out of death. What other hope is there for those of us who sail the troubled waters of this earth and dread the day when we sail off the edge. His word says he'll be there in the sky calling us up—and we will rise up on eagles wings, stretching the wings of our soul, to catch the air of the Spirit of God and fly away with him to a new earth.

• 20:31 *Jesus' disciples saw him do many other miraculous signs besides the ones recorded in this book. But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing in him you will have life."*

RISEN. The shining life light of God, that created the world out of darkness and emptiness, filled the dead body of Jesus. He came alive and, like a butterfly bursting out of its cocoon, Jesus arose free from death and walked out of the tomb alive.

• 20:3 *"Peter and the other disciples ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple outran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked in and saw the linen cloth lying there...he saw and believed...that Jesus had risen from the dead."*

MARY! Mary, looking for the dead body of the Master, instead held the living body of the Master in her arms so fiercely that Jesus had to tell her not to cling to him. She would never be separated from her friend and God ever again. He would take her hand and walk with her in light through the valley of the shadow of death to the Father's house.

20:16 *"Mary!" Jesus said. She turned toward him and exclaimed, "Teacher!" "Don't cling to me," Jesus said, "for I haven't yet ascended to the Father. But go find my brothers and tell them that I am ascending to my Father and your Father, my God and your God."*

BREATHED. Jesus - God, the son, breathed a second time, imparting the Holy Spirit. It changed us into the sons and daughters of God. Changed from Homo sapiens (thinking man) to homo in excelsis (man in the highest), a little less than God.

•20:20-22 *"They were filled with joy when they saw their Lord! He spoke to them again and said, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'" Then he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."*