William B. Kessel

2018

**REJOICE, THE LORD IS RISEN: THE VOICE OF ROSE DEHOSE THOMPSON**

 Jesus said, *I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies* (John 11:25).

 Rose Dehose Thompson was from Cibecue and was a member of the Lower Cibecue Mission. She married and had children, some of whom moved to Whiteriver. Whenever she came to visit her children she always attended church where Arthur A. Guenther was pastor. Rose held a special place in Pastor Guenther’s heart, and he called her *shi-woye*—'my grandmother’ (A. Guenther 2006:6). Rose deeply loved her family and the missionaries, but above all she loved her crucified and risen Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

 Some years earlier she had written a letter to Arthur Guenther’s father, E. E. Guenther sharing her insights about Easter.

 **Again we have celebrated the happy Easter. We hear so much of our Savior’s**

 **suffering during these Sundays. I am sad of hearing about Jesus our Savior being**

 **nailed to the cross. If I was there and see his blood dropping to the ground I**

 **surely would cry for him.**

 **Now it is the glad news again that he is alive again after he was dead. The**

 **happiest thing in our life is to live again after we die. That is to live forever in the**

 **next world with Jesus our brother and our heavenly Father who watches over us**

 **during our lifetime here on earth.**

 **We also have many wonderful things here on earth that we should be thankful**

 **for, such as the things we wear on our body, cattle or herds, homes and fields.**

 **Best of all God has given us our children that make us so happy at our home. We**

 **bring our children to God on Easter morning to be baptized. This is the way we**

 **celebrate our Easter to show that we are all God’s children and Jesus is our Savior**

 **that will save us in our trouble. He can forgive our sins. He can help us in sickness**

 **and sadness. He will raise us when we die and take us home to our heavenly**

 **Father which is in heaven….**

 **Thank the Lord that gave us our children. May our children grow up to be men**

 **and women. Give them wisdom and an understanding heart to hear thy Word. We**

 **don’t ask for riches but for wisdom that we will have everlasting life through Jesus**

 **Christ who died on the cross for our sins.**

 **Easter is the happy day for us again. I will say on Easter, Christ lives again.**

 **Rose Dehose Thompson (“Wee-Sawn”) Lower Cibecue Mission Apache**

And THE WORD OF THE LORD GROWS

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED**

1. What evidence is there that Rose understood the meaning of Christ’s life and crucifixion?

2. What did Easter mean to Rose?

3. The Apache like to have children baptized on Christmas and Easter. How did she explain this?

4. Rose counted her blessings. What were some of the blessings she itemized?

**SALVATION UNTO US HAS COME** (Christian Worship, Hymn 390)

The Problem

1. Read Leviticus 19:2. What does God demand of us? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Romans 3:23. Do we live up to God’s demand? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Read Ezekiel 18:20 and Romans 6:23. Therefore, what do people deserve? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Promise

1. Read Numbers 21:4-9.

 a. What was the problem? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 b. What was the solution? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read John 3:14-15. What was God’s solution to man’s sin? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Read John 3:16-17. What prompted God to send Jesus as Savior? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

4. God’s promise to save sinful mankind can also be seen in Genesis 3:15, Job 19:23-27, Isaiah 53, Matthew 1:21, etc.

The Solution

***Jesus became our substitute by his life.***

1. As we have seen, God demands perfection or holiness, but people sin. What did God do?

 a. Read Galatians 4:4. God sent Jesus to live under ­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 So he was expected to live a perfect life as outlined in Leviticus 19:2.

 b. Read 1 Peter 2:22 and Hebrews 4:15. Did Jesus keep the law perfectly? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 c. Therefore, did Jesus deserve punishment from God? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did the perfectly obedient Jesus then do?

 Read Romans 5:19 and 2 Corinthians 5:21. Jesus gave \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ credit for

 his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. This is called Jesus’ **Active Obedience**. He fulfilled the law for us.

***Jesus became our substitute by his death.***

1. Read Romans 6:23. Where there is sin there must be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read Isaiah 53:5-6. God the Father laid all our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on Jesus.

3. Read Galatians 3:13 and 1 Peter 3:18. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for our sins.

4. This is called Jesus’ **Passive Obedience.** Jesus endured God’s anger and judgment as he suffered and died for our sin.

**EASTER AND ITS MEANING**

1. Read Matthew 28:1-10. What happened on Easter? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. Read John 2:19-22 and Matthew 17:23. Was Easter part of God’s plan all along? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Did God keep his word? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3. Jesus’ resurrection from the dead gives great joy and assurance.

 a. Read Romans 1:4. Easter assures us that Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 b. Read 1 Corinthians 15:17 and Romans 4:25. Easter assures us that our debt of sin has been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 c. Read John 11:25-26, 14:19 and 1 Corinthians 15:20-22. Easter assures us that we, ourselves, will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED**

1. Question. What evidence is there that Rose understood the meaning of Christ’s life and crucifixion?

 a. Rose said that if she would have seen the crucifixion taking place she would have wept. Was the crucifixion a sorrowful event? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 b. But Rose also viewed the crucifixion as the means to her \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. Question. What did Easter mean to Rose? Based on her letter, which of the following filled

 her with joy on Easter?

 a. Easter as proof that Jesus is God’s Son and what he says is true

 b. Easter as proof that God accepted Jesus’ sacrifice and our sins are paid for in full

 c. Easter as a promise that we will rise from the dead

3. Question. The Apache like to have children baptized on Christmas and Easter. Sometimes Apaches have been criticized for doing this.

 a. Read Galatians 4:4-5. How does Christmas show we are incorporated into God’s family?

 b. Read Romans 6:4-10 and Colossians 2:12. How is baptism connected to Easter?

 c. See the third paragraph of Rose’s letter. How did she explain the Apache Christian custom?

4. Question. Rose counted her blessings. What were some of the blessings she itemized?

 a. Present blessings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 b. Future blessings \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

CLOSING THOUGHT

 I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort this sweet sentence gives!

 He lives, he lives, who once was dead; He lives my ever-living Head!

 He lives and grants me daily breath; He lives, and I shall conquer death.

 He lives my mansion to prepare; He lives to bring me safely there.

 (Christian Worship, Hymn 152).

REFERENCE CITED

 Guenther, Arthur Alchesay

 2006 “Testimony of a Christian Apache grandmother.” *Mission Connection.* Vol. 11,

 No. 3, p. 6.