

“HUME’S HAPPENINGS”

1st July 2023

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Greetings brethren ,

Thank you for your support , it is very much appreciated . Following is my report for **June 2023** .

BOOKLETS TO HILLWOOD .

This month after discussions with an elderly member of the Hillwood football club about the existence of God and the Bible , I gave him four of my Bound Lesson Booklets .

- (1) *“Why I believe in God”* .
- (2) *“The doctrine of creation”* .
- (3) *“Is the Bible the word of God”* .
- (4) *“The Bible and scientific foreknowledge”* .

He said that he will get back to me for further discussion after he has studied these booklets .

VISITOR - CHINA .

This month Renee Alves , a wonderful lady from Brazil , who has been a member at Eastside for two years , living in my city (Launceston) on a *“Mature Student Visa”* , had a visit from a middle age lady (**Angelina**) from China .

Renee brought Angelina to the roast dinner that my wife Jackie prepares every Tuesday evening in our home , for any brethren who wish to attend . We have several bachelors and widows in our congregation who live alone and they love not having to prepare and eat alone on Tuesday nights .

Angelina had a wonderful time associating with some of our Eastside members , then after dinner she met more members as they arrived for our Bible Class .

She seemed to really enjoy the class (taught by Viktor Koskovic) , so much so that she also attended Eastside’s Bible class and Worship Service the following

Sunday . I preached a lesson on , “*The Parable Of The Sower*” , with some pertinent teaching for her .

She then also attended the following Tuesday night dinner and Bible Class before returning to China two days later . During her time in Launceston she also joined several of Eastside’s fanatical bush - walkers on two treks through the Australian bush (forest) .

Right before she left our home after the second Tuesday night class , Angelina called me aside and hugged me and said she was deeply impressed with the love every Eastside member has for each other , and also she was amazed at the love and level of knowledge that every Eastside member has for the Bible .

She took the Bound Lesson Booklet re the sermon she had listened to , back to China with her , and on the Sunday she publicly informed the whole congregation that she is determined to return to Tasmania in the near future to study the Bible with us all again . She took my email address with her so she can ask me religious questions in the coming months .

VISITOR - PORTUGAL .

Also this month Renee brought a lady (**Sonia**) from Portugal to dinner and Bible Class . Sonia’s husband is a professional Soccer (Football) coach who has arrived with his family to coach one of the Launceston teams in our major statewide soccer league .

As the Bible Class was about to finish , Sonia informed everyone that she is from a Roman Catholic background , but has never read the Bible .

She said that she had been emotionally moved and affected by the knowledge and obvious love every Eastside member has for the Bible . She confessed that she realises she ought to study the scriptures and determined that she would attend Eastside meetings regularly for the remainder of her husband’s Tasmanian contract .

She said that her and her husband love what they have seen of Tasmania so far , and it is entirely possible that when his contract expires they will either sign another contract or remain living in Tasmania . We hope to see much more of her in the future .

ANOTHER VISITOR - PORTUGAL .

Also this month Renee brought a middle aged lady from Portugal (**Pauline**) to dinner and Bible Class one Tuesday night . Pauline chatted happily over dinner with Eastside members , then listened intently as Viktor taught the class .

QUIZ - RETIREMENT VILLAGE .

This month Jackie and I drove three hours to our Capital city (Hobart) for us to conduct a Quiz afternoon for the city’s largest retirement village .

Prior to conducting the initial quiz at this facility last year we did not know even one resident , but upon returning this month we were welcomed as if we were life long friends .

It was great to see so many faces we now recognised , and everyone had a laughter filled fun time , even though they are all so serious about winning . They have asked Jackie and I to conduct another quiz in **November** this year .

The mainland company that owns this Hobart retirement village also owns one in my home city (Launceston) and they have asked Jackie and I to conduct a quiz in September, just five minutes from my home.

Viktor Koskovic, who teaches my home congregation's (Eastside) Tuesday night class lives in this Launceston retirement village, but I refuse to succumb to his suggestion that I let him have a sneak look at the answers prior to the quiz (Ha).

Seriously, over the past thirty years that Jackie and I have been conducting these quiz sessions all over Tasmania (free of charge), we have made hundreds of lifetime friends, but more importantly, we have had countless opportunities to publicly let people know we are Christians, and to tell them about New Testament Christianity.

WORSHIPPED WITH "NEW" HOBART CHURCH.

Because Hobart is three hours from my home, on the quiz weekend Jackie and I worshipped with the new amalgamated "*Mornington Hill church of Christ*".

It was great to see many much loved brethren again, and as we were leaving the building, several of the leading men asked me to preach for them when we come to Hobart in November for the next quiz.

The amalgamation was between the **Lindisfarne** and **Eastern Shore** congregations, and I have preached many times for the "old" Lindisfarne church but never for the "old" Eastern Shore.

CORONA - VIRUS AND SHINGLES SHOTS.

This month Jackie and I had our fifth (5th) **Corona Virus** shots and also, on the advice of our doctor, we also had the first of two **Shingles** shots.

Corona lockdowns and border closures are a thing of the past in Tasmania despite hearing every day of a number of people contacting the virus. Masks are optional in most places, but mandatory in doctor's surgeries and hospitals.

Our doctor persuaded us to have the two shingles shots as he has a number of patients badly affected by it, and he predicts an epidemic in Tasmania is not beyond the bounds of possibility. He told us that he and his wife had received these shingles shots.

BREAKING NEWS - BOOKLETS REQUEST - CHINA.

Just as I was about to send this report to you, I received an email from Angelina, the lady from **China** that I mentioned above. She arrived home from Tasmania safely and took time out to study seriously my Bound Lesson Booklet I gave her after hearing me preach.

She was so impressed by the simplicity, yet in depth teaching in the booklet, with all its scripture references, that she has requested that I add her to my world-wide monthly mailing list.

I have never sent booklets to China before, and I have no idea of what the situation is there re the Chinese Government's attitude to "Christianity" (especially New Testament Christianity).

Do you know anything about this ?

Every month my booklets now go to [Kenya](#), [Sri Lanka](#), [India](#), [Zimbabwe](#), [Papua New Guinea](#), [New Zealand](#), [Brazil](#), every state in [Australia](#), and now [China](#).

LESSONS TAUGHT BY ME AT EASTSIDE IN JUNE .

Most of my Bible class and sermon subjects take several weeks to cover due to the nature of the Eastside members who need constant repetition, detailed explanations, and mutual discussions among brethren re personal applications of Biblical principles in their lives .

Also, I encourage members to ask questions re anything they do not understand or even something that is a side issue to what we are actually studying at the time thus it is very rare for me to ever complete a lesson in one Bible class .

Following are the lessons I taught at Eastside this month .

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS .

June 4 - I worshipped at **Mornington Hill (Hobart)** .

11 - *"Christ's words of truth"* .

18 - *"Christ's words of truth"* .

25 - *"Christ's words of truth"* .

SUNDAY SERMONS .

June 4 - I worshipped at Mornington Hill (Hobart) .

11 - *"Finishing strong"* (Caleb) .

18 - *"My hope is built on nothing less"* .

25 - *"The parable of the sower"* .

MIDWEEK BIBLE CLASS .

June 6 - Viktor taught **Romans chapter 9** .

13 - Viktor taught **Romans chapter 10** .

20 - Viktor taught **Romans chapter 11** .

27 - Viktor taught **Romans chapter 12** .

Following is a repeat of the items that form the basis of my activities each month .

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES .

Set up school .

Jackie and I arrive about one hour early on Sunday morning along with two other members and we set up an "auditorium" in the gymnasium of the Ravenswood Heights Primary School.

"Friend day" lunch at our house for brethren and visitors after Sunday worship on the second or third Sunday in the month.

Midweek Bible Class : Continues to be at my house .

Study periods : Preparing sermons and Bible classes for Eastside's meetings .

Lesson booklets : Ongoing typing , photocopying , stapling , and binding of new and replacement booklets for requests , and for display at our church meetings .

Study packs : Ongoing photocopying , stapling , and packaging of these as time permits .

Letterboxing : Jackie and I make every effort to continue this project on a weekly basis , but often a lack of time does not allow this to happen .

Thank you once again for your wonderful support , please visit us if you ever get the opportunity to do so ,

Yours in Christ ,

Barry Hume .

P . S . SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

I have attached another one of my sermons for you to see how and what I preach

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

INTRODUCTION

A. FUNDAMENTAL FACTS OF CHRISTIANITY.

Christ's death, burial, and resurrection are the facts upon which Christianity rests, and of these three, it is Christ's resurrection that is the cornerstone of New Testament doctrine, and it is the basis for our hope - **1 Cor 15 : 1 - 4 & 12 - 19.**

Thus, Christ's resurrection formed the "heart" of the apostle's teaching.

Peter **Acts 2 : 22 - 24 & 32**

Apostles **Acts 4 : 33**

Paul **Acts 13 : 32 - 37 17 : 1 - 3 & 16 - 18**

B. WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR US ?

Is it simply an event that happened so long ago that it has no relevance to us in our time ?

What difference does it make to us whether He rose from the dead or not ? What are the consequences and significance for us because He did rise from the dead ?

PROVED HE IS **THE SON OF GOD**

A. DECLARED BEFORE HIS RESURRECTION.

Prior to His resurrection there were clear indications that He was the Son of God. God the Father had acknowledged Jesus as His Son and Jesus had claimed He was the Son of God - **Matt 17 : 1 - 8**
Jn 5 : 17 - 18 & 10 : 36 - 38.

B. IT WAS THE ULTIMATE PROOF.

His resurrection was the ultimate, final, conclusive proof that He is the Son of God - **Rom 1 : 1 - 4.**

His miracles only have meaning because of His resurrection. A miracle worker who is now permanently dead is nowhere as significant as a living, resurrected Saviour !

When the Jews asked for a sign, note what Jesus pointed to - **Matt 12 : 38 - 40.**

Note the effect that His resurrection had on His disciples - **Jn 2 : 18 - 22.**

C. HIS RESURRECTION HAD BEEN PROPHECIED - PS 16 : 8 - 10.

Thus His disciples were not to reveal Him as the Christ until He had risen - **Matt 16 : 20** & **17 : 9.**

This was because, His sinless life, miracles, death and shed blood, means nothing if He did not triumph over the tomb.

But He did rise from the dead, thus proving He was the Son of God, the Christ ! That is why Peter preached what he did in **Acts 2 : 22 - 36.**

MEANS SALVATION **IS AVAILABLE TO ALL**

A. CONSIDER ROM 5 : 10.

Some misinterpret **Rom 5 : 10** to say that we are reconciled to God through Christ's death, and then if we are so motivated we will emulate the life Christ lived on this earth to the extent we will never fall from grace.

They claim that it is in this way that we are saved by His earthly, fleshly life, when we imitate Him - **1 Cor 11 : 1** & **1 Pet 2 : 21.**

The fallacy of this argument is, when we have imitated Christ, we are not saved by that life we have lived, but are still unworthy of salvation - **Lk 17 : 7 - 10.**

We can only ever be saved by the shed blood of Christ through God's grace - **Eph 1 : 7** & **2 : 8 - 10.**

B. WHAT IS ROM 5 : 10 TEACHING ?

Rom 5 : 10 is referring to the life that Christ now lives, after His death and resurrection, note the context in **Rom 4 : 24 - 25.**

Christ rose from the dead and entered into the presence of God - **Heb 9 : 22 - 24** & **10 : 12.**

Under the Old Testament covenant, the High Priest entered the "Holy of Holies" in the tabernacle with blood to make atonement for the sins of the people - **Lev 16 : 11 - 17** **Heb 9 : 3 - 7**.

After His death and resurrection, Christ entered into the spiritual "Holy of Holies", with His own blood, to make atonement for all of us - **Heb 9 : 8 - 12** & **25 - 26**.

C. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS FOR US ?

Because He did rise from the dead, He always lives to make intercession for us, pleading with the Father for our salvation, and arguing the merits of His shed blood as a permanent reason why we should be saved - **Heb 7 : 23 - 25**.

Because He rose from the dead, we have an "Advocate" with the Father (**1 Jn 2 : 1**). An Advocate is a lawyer who represents you in court.

Jesus represents us in the "court" of heaven, His defense argument being His own sacrifice on our behalf.

But if He has not risen, He would not be alive to represent us and make intercession for us, thus we would still be lost in our sins - **1 Cor 15 : 17 - 18**.

He was raised to intercede for us (**Rom 8 : 34**), thus we are saved by His life, the life He now lives - **Rom 5 : 10**.

IT MEANS WE WILL **BE RESURRECTED**

A. A QUESTION EVERYONE THINKS ABOUT.

Mankind has always pondered Job's question, "If a man dies, will he live again ?" (**Job 14 : 14**) and people fear death for several reasons.

Because of the pain and misery that often goes with it.

Because of the corruption of the body in the grave after it.

Because of the uncertainty of their destiny beyond it.

B. FREEDOM FROM THAT FEAR.

Through His physical death and resurrection, Christ has delivered us from this fear of death - **Heb 2 : 14 - 15**.

Satan had "the power of death", in the sense that death is the direct consequence of sin, and Satan was the cause of sin entering the world, and he continues to tempt people to sin today - **Rom 5 : 12** & **6 : 23**
Gen 3 : 1 - 6 **1 Pet 5 : 8 - 9**.

Because of Christ's death and His resurrection we can have forgiveness of our sins, thus we do not have to fear death - **2 Tim 4 : 6 - 8**.

C. IF CHRIST HAS NOT RISEN ? - 1 COR 15 : 12 - 19.

1. The apostles preaching and our faith is vain - vs 14.

Their preaching was a waste of breath, and there is no benefit in us today believing that Christ was resurrected.

2. The apostles are false witnesses - vs 15.

It is not a choice between whether the apostles spoke the truth or made a mistake, if Christ has not risen, then the apostles were blatant liars when they claimed to have seen the risen Lord !

3. We are still in our sins - vs 17.

If Christ did not rise, then He also did not enter into the spiritual "*Holy of Holies*" (by the right hand of God) to make atonement for us, He would not be alive today to make intercession for us - **Heb 9 : 11 - 12 & 7 : 23 - 25**.

We would not have an Advocate with the Father, thus we would not be, "*saved by His life*" (that He now lives) - **1 Jn 2 : 1 Rom 5 : 10**.

4. Those who have died in Christ have perished - vs 18.

All of the departed faithful have lived and died in vain, and are doomed to eternal "midnight". Their bodies have decayed, and their souls have ceased to exist forever.

5. Christians are to be pitied - vs 19.

To deny ourselves (sinful) pleasures of this life because of our hope of a life beyond death, would be pitiful if Christ has not been raised.

It is especially pitiful re those who endure suffering because of their faith. If Christ has not been resurrected, then our lives as Christians are based on a hoax or delusion.

D. CHRIST BECAME THE "FIRST FRUITS".

Christ did rise from the dead and became the "*first fruits*" of all who die - **1 Cor 15 : 20 - 23**.

"*First fruits*" refers to **Lev 23 : 9 - 11** re when the first sheaf is offered, with the promise that the rest of the crop would follow.

Christ's resurrection is our guarantee that we too will rise from the dead - **1 Cor 15 : 50 - 57 & 6 : 14**.

IT MEANS WE WILL

ALL BE JUDGED

A. JESUS CLAIMED HE WOULD JUDGE ALL PEOPLE.

Before His death, Jesus claimed that all nations would be gathered before His judgment throne and He would judge all people, and the Holy Spirit (speaking through Paul) affirmed this to be true - **Matt 25 : 31 - 46** **Jn 5 : 22 & 25 - 29** **Rom 2 : 16** **2 Cor 5 : 10**.

For Jesus to fulfill these claims He would have to live beyond His death on the cross, the alternative is that He is dead forever and His claims are those of an imposter. The Holy Spirit's claims (through Paul) re Jesus as Judge would be nonsense.

B. GOD (THE FATHER) RAISED JESUS TO BE JUDGE.

The truth is, God raised Jesus from the dead in order for Him to be the Judge of all mankind - **Acts 10 : 38 - 42**.

God was with Him vs 38 .

He was put to death vs 39 .

God raised Him up vs 40 .

Was witnessed after He was resurrected vs 41 .

The reason God raised Him is so He could be our judge vs 42 .

C. HIS RESURRECTION IS PROOF HE WILL BE JUDGE.

Jesus' resurrection is proof that God will judge us through Christ, because God would not have raised an imposter - **Acts 17 : 30 - 31**.

He who was ordained to be our Judge was raised, thus it is not a matter of doubt. His resurrection is the grounds for our faith in Him as our Judge, and this should cause us to repent and remain faithful to Him.

CONCLUSION

A. WE SHOULD MEDITATE ON HIS RESURRECTION DAILY.

The reality, power, and significance of Christ's resurrection must never be allowed to grow dim in our thoughts, and the significance of Christ's resurrection should motivate us to daily faithfulness.

Paul taught a parallel between the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, and the baptism of a believer into Christ - **Rom 6 : 3 - 11**.

The believer rises (is resurrected) from the water to, "*walk in newness of life*", thus the attitude of those who have been, "*raised up with Christ*" - **Col 3 : 1 - 10**.

This new life here on earth (after our baptism) will find completeness in our resurrection from the grave - **1 Cor 6 : 14** & **15 : 54 - 58**.