

It's no secret, our world has been plunged into darkness, war, violence on our streets, you know the story. Does your heart grow heavy when you think of it all?

Darkness was heavy on the hill of Calvary 2,000 years ago. Jesus was crushed to death. Does your heart feel heavy? But 3 days later, early in the morning the first rays of sunlight spilled over the hill of Calvary. It reached the tomb where Jesus lay. There is a soft rumbling. An angel rolls back the stone. He is risen. He who was dead is alive. Jesus has defeated death. Jesus appears in human flesh. Evil is defeated.

Not many days prior to this Jesus had been summoned by His dear friends Mary and Martha to their home in Bethany which was only a few miles from Jerusalem.

Frequently Jesus had visited their home. On those visits He must have shared stories of the marvelous miracles He had performed; restoring sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, healing cripples.

When Lazarus their brother becomes sick to the point of death Mary and Martha knew just what to do. They sent for Jesus. Surely, He could heal their brother. But Jesus didn't come. When He finally arrived, Lazarus had been in the tomb 4 days.

As Jesus arrived at their home Martha ran out to meet Jesus. Martha was quite feisty. She spoke impatiently to Jesus; "Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died." Jesus responded, "Your brother will rise." Martha responded, "I know he will rise in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus responded "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the One who is coming into the world."

Not long after Mary came out to meet Jesus. She spoke the same words as Martha; "Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died." Jesus responded, "If you believe you will see the glory of God"

Do you believe this?" It is clear that faith is the key. Jesus speaks to you today, "If you believe you will see the glory of God". If you believe.

But in our time faith may seem difficult. Our world is saturated in secularism, in unbelief.

But remember these words of Jesus, “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea and it will obey you.’”

So don't worry. A mustard seed is tiny. Even tiny faith is enough. Jesus is always, at every moment breathing His Holy Spirit into you. The breath of Jesus and your desire will save you.

The back of darkness is broken!
He is risen! He is with us. Alleluia!

Happy Easter!