

WELS Canada Communique

EASTER

2024

If you were to die today, what would your family say in your obituary? If you could write a letter to your loved ones for them to read after you're gone, what would you want them to hear?

"Oh, that my words were recorded, that they were written on a scroll, that they were inscribed with an iron tool on lead,

or engraved in rock forever!"

Do you think Job knew that these words would be remembered forever? And what was so important for him to leave behind for posterity? Was it the record of his life, or the way he was "wronged" by God? Was it a list of all that he had lost or the loved ones who had prematurely preceded him in death?

No. It was his confidence in the resurrection from the dead.

Far from being a sight for sore eyes, Job's "friends" - and even his own wife - were a nuisance and a bother. But he knew that there would come a day when he'd see his heart's desire - his redeemer living and standing on the earth.

Job was watching as his skin was being ravaged by disease. But he knew that after that skin was finally destroyed, yet in his own flesh and with his own eyes, he would see his God.

Of all the things a wealthy, self-made man would want for his legacy, Job wanted his confidence in the resurrection to be recorded for you and for me, so that our hearts could yearn within us too.

Another Easter has come. The Alleluias have returned. Your worship space may be filled with lilies and every pastel colour known to man. You may gather around a good old-fashioned potluck. But when we look back on these moments, we'll remember them fondly, not because of the food or the festivities, not because of the music or even the people.

We'll remember these days with joy - and want to remember them forever - because of what the angel said that first Easter morning:

"He is not here. He has risen!"

His enemies did not defeat him. Death could not hold him. And because he lives, he promises that you shall live too.

That means that no matter what hardship or heartache you experience - even if your pain could rival Job's - you can share his joy and confidence. Nothing can prevent your Redeemer's return. Nothing can prohibit your resurrection or eternal life.

The man who died for you, rose for you, and lives for you so that you can live with the knowledge and confidence that you will live with him forever in heaven. That's worth inscribing in stone and engraving in rock for generations to come:

Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God's richest blessings on your Easter celebrations.

In Him,

Pete Metzger

President, WELS Canada