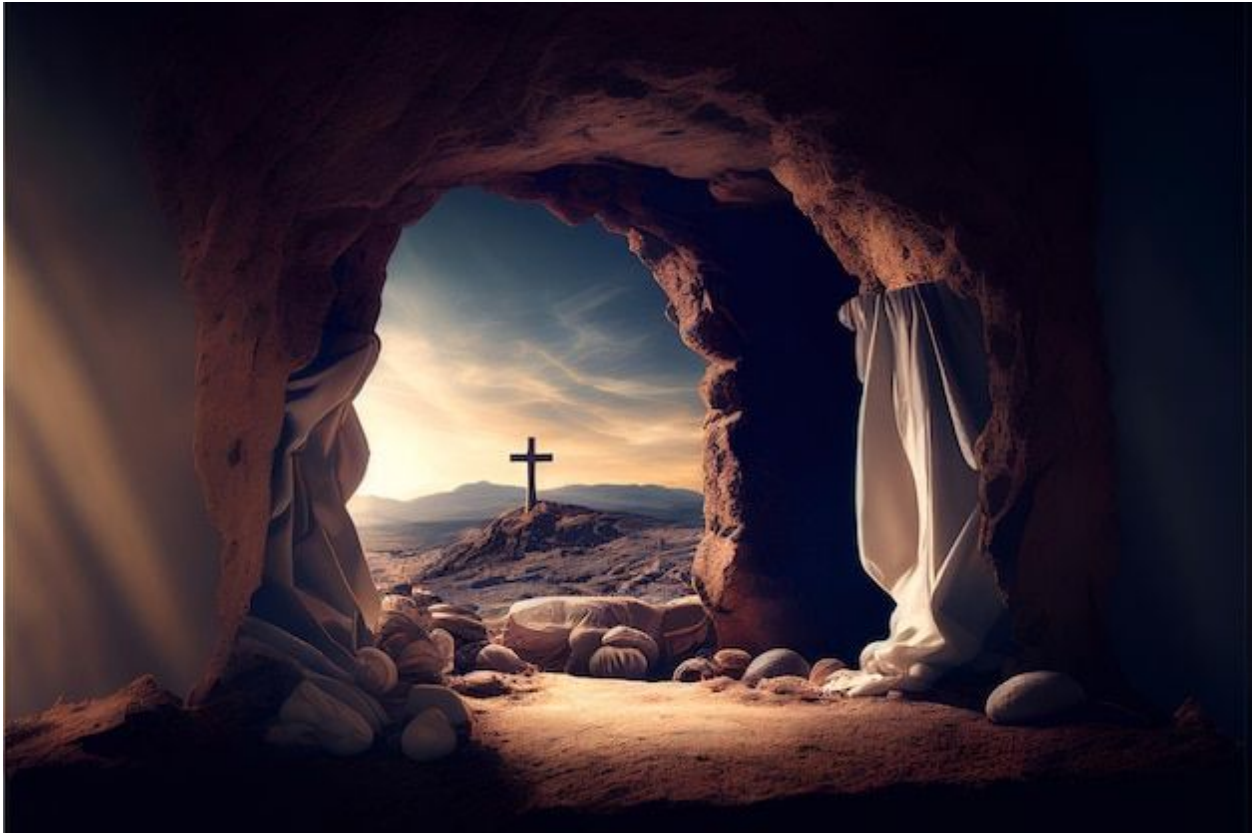


MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS



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The sin in the garden subjected mankind to depravity and a state of death (Genesis 2:17, Ezekiel 18:20, Romans 6:23). This made man be in a perpetual search for salvation. They devised strategies from generations to generation that could make them unite with God like the garden.

People became idolaters; they worshipped nature, influential men, animals and many other things whether they are capable of replacing the need of God's plan. Their efforts to attain salvation from the biting state of sin were all proved abortive.

They instituted religion by setting some rules that could make them better than those who don't. They had reasons to boast whenever they felt they kept the body of rules. The law made them have a rising and falling confidence towards their struggle over sin and guilt. The law couldn't make any man perfect (Hebrews 7:19), it only made everyone guilty before God (Romans 3:19). The best of the law keepers found out they only had a self righteousness which was a filthy rag before God (Isaiah 64:6).

The blood of bulls and goats couldn't cleanse man (Hebrews 10:4). Man offended an eternal God, it was impossible to remove the penalty of the offense by an earthly provision. There was a need of an eternal sacrifice which man could not provide. Devil had a legal right to ensnare man, their health, finances, marriage and everything they should have enjoyed if not for the fall.

God loves mankind (John 3:16), He had a plan before the foundation of the world to redeem man (Revelation 13:8). David prophesied that God didn't delight in sacrifices (Psalms 40:6) and other Holy men spoke of the grace that some people will have by a unique provision of God (1 Peter 1:9-10). In this grace, people will be atoned for and be empowered to become God's children (John 1:12). The grace was so wonderful that angels even looked into the matter. (1 Peter 1:12)

When Jesus appeared, He didn't plan to only save man, but also to translate and seat those who believe in him in the heavenly kingdom of God (Colossians 1:13). After his death, burial and resurrection he started another race that has the nature of God. These people have the gift of God's righteousness (Romans 5:17). This was superior to the self righteousness they had through works and this gift was for free. Nobody has the opportunity to boast because man's effort was not in it (Romans 2:8-9).

He made everyone that believe complete in Him by his grace. He redeemed us from the curse of the law, His righteousness made us righteous (Titus

3:4-5, Colossians 2:10). We became freely justified by grace (Romans 3:24, Titus 3:7). There was nothing left that His sacrifice didn't cover.

Trusting in self righteousness is like standing on sinking sand, it's a miry clay that makes man not have perpetual standing in faith. The offered remission, justification and salvation are not capable of being corrupted because they were done by an incorruptible seed. The Word of the lord; which is the eternal rock of salvation. Since man did nothing but believe to obtain the offered salvation, we must continue in our walk in faith by believing in him every day of our lives (Colossians 2:6).

We will rest on His unchanging grace during the high and stormy gale. Our hope is that no matter comes our way, He that started the good work will finish. He will never leave nor forsake us, we can boast in His grace that the lord is our Helper and we don't fear anyone (Hebrew 13:5-6).

We are rest assured that neither death, life, angels, principalities, powers, present, future, height or depth can separate us from the love of Christ. He is our hope (Romans 8:38-39). This hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. Hallelujah.



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