

THE LAMP NEWSLETTER

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105 KJV).

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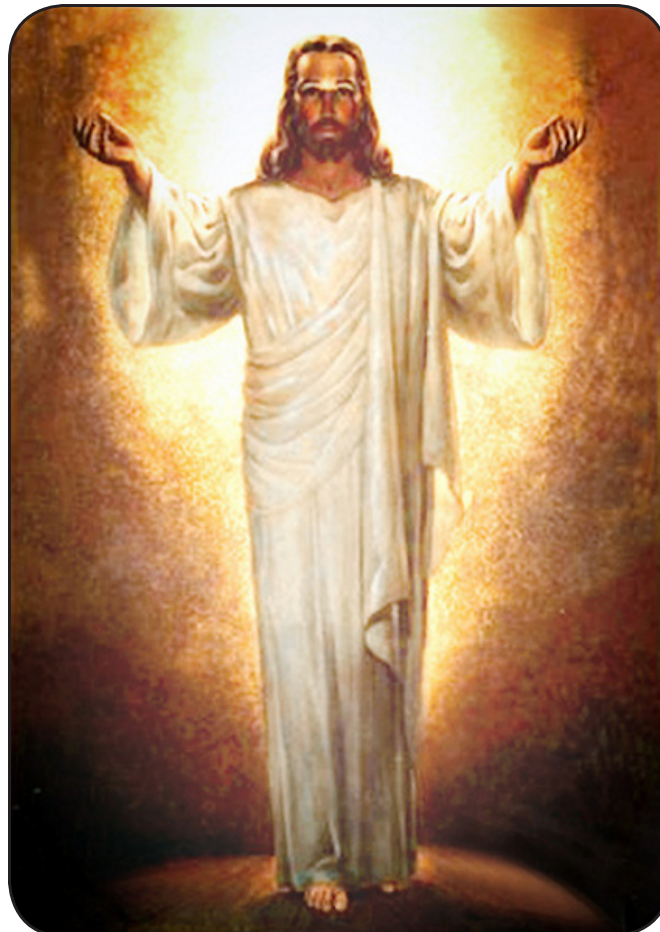
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HE IS RISEN!

JESUS IS ALIVE!





Dear Readers,

**Yes, Jesus our Lord and Savior is ALIVE! HE LIVES!
Praise our Lord! It is a glorious day!**

In this issue of the Lamp Newsletter, the ministry leaders of the Lamp and one of the contributing writers are the main contributors to this Easter /Resurrection newsletter.

Dealing with Forgiveness

You will find a heart-touching article written by First Lady Christine V. Mitchell of the UK (London, England). In her article, "All-Forgiving Love," she shares her personal feelings about forgiving someone who deeply hurt her. This clearly is in relationship to how Jesus forgave those who did wrong against Him. He even asked His Heavenly Father, our God, to forgive them.

Christine closes her section with her powerful poem, "HELP ME TO FORGIVE." The words of her poem will speak to your heart in a special way.

THE CROSS

Minister Sandra Hickman of Australia presents her artistic poetic message, "RISEN," in this issue. She has created the poem in the shape of the cross. When you look at this visually-inspired message you will have an exceptional experience. Each anointed word will capture your heart and give you a profound revelation.

REMOVE THE STONE and LIVE!

God is calling you to have a new life through His Son Jesus Christ! Author Ramelle T. Lee's poem, "REMOVE THE STONE and LIVE!," helps you to examine your life to see if you are living in lack, fear, doubt, and any other kind of bondage. She boldly lets you know that it is the time to release everything! Allow Jesus Christ to come into your life so you can live in peace, hope and victory! Jesus lives so you can live!

All-Forgiving Love

by Christine V Mitchell



As we enter this special season of remembrance, Easter, our thoughts turn to the One whose life was given as a sacrifice in our place – our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It's a time of remembrance and celebration, because His death meant that the way was open for mankind to return to God and to be forgiven. His resurrection means that we have the hope of eternal life, a life that is given to us the moment we believe the gospel and accept God's gift, His Son Jesus, into our hearts.

Easter is a wonderful time to reflect on the great love of God – something which amazes me more and more as the years go by. The Bible talks of how *"the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day"* (Proverbs 4:18). Our walk with the Lord is to be one of continually growing and becoming more like Jesus in our character. We often fall short though, don't we? I am so thankful that, despite our imperfections, His love is steadfast, overwhelming and all-embracing - drawing us to come closer. There is none as perfect as the Lord. As we come into His presence and feed upon His word, we can become more like Him. His loving heart of mercy and grace is always opens to us. He knocks on our heart's door. In fact. In Revelation 3:20, Jesus speaks to His church, saying, *"Behold I stand at the door and knock.."* Being our Heavenly Father, God is a God of relationship and restoration.

One of the things that I find so precious about the love of God is *forgiveness*, the key to a restored relationship with Him. Some of the precious last words of Jesus, as He hung on the cross, just before He died were *"Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"* (Luke 24:34 KJV). He uttered these words amidst excruciating agony, greater than any known to mankind. How many would do such a thing today, be willing to forgive, if the guilt and punishment of hundreds, thousands and millions the world over, or even as little as ten or twenty, were laid upon their shoulders? That takes GOD'S love, the kind that filled the heart of Stephen as he was stoned for his faith. Just before he died, *"... he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge"* (Acts 7:60 KJV). God's love in our hearts is packed with the grace to forgive. In our own strength, forgiveness is no easy thing, as I'm sure we can all testify. It's a work of the love and grace of God in our hearts, if we will allow it. It's not necessarily a feeling either, but a choice we make which – amazingly – can change how we feel.

Many years ago, as a young teenager, I went through an experience for which I said I would never forgive a certain person. Around that time, in school assemblies, we used to sing some beautiful songs and hymns... and say prayers. Oh how things have changed in the UK! Anyway, we used to sing a lovely song of thanksgiving called **“Thank You.”** This song had a very catchy tune. The first couple of lines were *“Thank You for giving me the morning. Thank You for every day that’s new ...”* etc. One verse had a line which said *“Thank You, for even greatest enemies I can forgive.”* Well – as we would sing that song, within my heart, I would sing *“Thank You, for even greatest enemies (except one) I can forgive”!!* I’m sure my prayer wasn’t heard! I didn’t yet know the Lord as my Saviour.

But, even as Christians, things happen all the time. People offend everywhere in life. The worst and most difficult for us to deal with is that which is closest to home, ie. when it’s our loved ones or close friends. How beautiful to have God’s light shine upon our pathway through the prayer that Jesus’ taught, which includes the words *“And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors”* (Matthew 6:12 KJV).

As we allow Jesus to be Lord of our lives, how beautiful that His power at work in us can enable us to forgive. He imparts the grace that we need. He doesn’t ask us to suddenly become good friends with all our offenders, but as we forgive, our hearts become free again.

The sacrifice of God’s gift of love to us at Easter offers us forgiveness. May our hearts be so filled with that love that our hearts will be free to forgive ... and set others free, too. *“If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed”* (John 8:36 NLT).

Many blessings, dear friends.

God bless you throughout this Easter Season. He is Risen!!



~ Help Me to Forgive ~

*Help me, Lord, to forgive that one
who crossed my path today.
Deep down within my heart, it seems
that hurt won't go away.*

*The memories of what was done
forever fill my mind
But, Lord, I know I must forgive;
please help me to unwind.*

*So often You have forgiven me
of sins that grieved Your heart;
You've showed me lovingkindness and
You gave me a brand new start.*

*Although it's hard for me, dear Lord,
with You I can do all things.
I choose Your way, dear Saviour, now
through the power that Your love brings.*

*Oh yes, dear Jesus, I forgive
as I know You've forgiven me
I set that person free to live
because You set me free.*

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RISEN!

♥ **LOVE** on
the Cross.
AMAZING
Forgiveness
was burning
the dross.
Love paying
the cost, is what they saw. Though many missed Love's
opened door. From beginning to end LOVE did prevail.
The **PASSION**. The sacrifice. The gift. The **JOY**.
Mary's child
Her baby boy
Conceived
by Love~
The Love of
G O D ♥
Along the
path that
JESUS trod.
The nails.
Betrayals.
Salvation,
F A I T H~
Grace to
look upon
HIS face.
Glorious
SAVIOR~
3rd day...
The Way -
HE ♥ **IS**
RISEN!

Remove the Stone and Live!

by Ramelle T. Lee



*Surrender your life to Jesus.
Remove the stone that holds you captive.
Release your bitterness, discouragement,
Loneliness, and depressing thoughts to Him.
They have kept your spirit bound!*

*Let go of sorrow, heartaches, fear, and anxiety.
Let go of old past hurts!
Allow the almighty resurrection power of Jesus
To embrace and control your total being.
Allow the Holy Spirit to empower your faith.
Now, visualize your miracles coming forth!
Feel the glorious sparkling newness of life:
Giving you a refreshing,
And mighty lift in your spirit.
Jesus is giving you a brand new life!
Jesus has intercepted the stone.
That came to crush your faith.
Now, you can live again!*

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Closing Remarks....

Praise God for Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior! Jesus is Lord of lords. He is the King of kings. Rejoice! We have victory through Jesus.

*“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed”
(Isaiah 53:5 KJV).*

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:17 KJV).

“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (John 10:10 KJV).

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