

Because I Live

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Jesus had been telling the apostles about his leaving them, but that they would not be abandoned. He would dwell within the believer and be there to comfort and to guide them. In **John 14:19** Jesus said, "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also."

Because he lives! Jesus lives, no matter what men may say, and is coming back for his people. Not only is he coming back but he is blessing the believer while we live here in this life.

Because he lives we have the hope that the world can't take away. Jesus loves me and gave himself for me, and for you. The world doesn't even care whether we live, or die, but the Lord cared enough to provide the sacrifice for our sins. He, Jesus, is with us as we face life and all the challenges and trials that come our way. We are not alone when we face some sickness, or even death. All that we face Jesus has faced and knows our concerns.

It hurts when we have been betrayed by those we trusted. We might wonder why and struggle to understand. When it happens we need to remember that Jesus was betrayed both, by Judas and Peter, along with many others. He forgives and shows us that we are to forgive and to follow him. It is not always easy, but it is always the right thing to do.

Because he lives we know that our sins are forgiven. They are washed away by the blood of the Lamb of God, who gave himself to redeem man from sin. As Paul said in **1 Corinthians 15:16-17**, "For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." Yes, Jesus lives, and because he lives we face each day, not with dread and fear, but with hope and peace. There are many things that happen that I can't deal with or change, but the Lord can take care of each of us if we walk with him.

Because he lives we know that there is a life for us after this world has perished. Here in this life we have said goodbye to many of our loved ones and our friends. Death seems like the end and it hurts us like nothing else can when it parts us from those

we love. The promise of God is that we will rise from the grave and will be together in heaven someday. **John 11:25-26**, "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" That is a question that deserves an answer. Do you believe what Jesus said? It is a "Yes" or "No" answer. No other answer will do, as a maybe is classed as a "NO."

Because God lives there will be a judgment. It is certain and will come at the appointed time.

Hebrews 9:27-28, "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment: So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation." When we think either of death, or the coming of the Lord, we do not have to worry if we are living for him. However, if we live for the things of this world and care not for the things of God there is much to worry about. Jesus offers us salvation but it is up to each of us to accept or reject him. Decide soon, because - He lives!

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462 Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Genesis intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

ABRAHAM'S BATTLE WITH THE FIVE KINGS

HAVING LEARNED THAT HIS NEPHEW, LOT, HAS BEEN TAKEN PRISONER BY THE KINGS, WHO HAVE INVADED SODOM, ABRAHAM ARMS ALL HIS SERVANTS AND NOW PREPARES TO GO TO LOT'S RESCUE....

AS IT HAS TO BE IN THESE ANCIENT TIMES, ABRAHAM'S MEN ARE ALL TRAINED IN WAR, FOR THIS IS THE ONLY WAY SHEEPHERDS CAN HOPE TO SURVIVE IN A WILDERNESS OF DANGER!

COME! FOLLOW AFTER ME!

...IN THE COOL NIGHT AIR, THESE HARDY MEN MOVE WITH RAPID EASE AT A STEADY MILE-EATING PACE—FOR THEIR NOMADIC LIFE HAS TRAINED THEM TO COVER GREAT DISTANCES IN LITTLE TIME!

...FINALLY, THEY COME UPON THE INVADING ARMY, ASLEEP IN A SECURE VALLEY—THE PRISONERS, BETWEEN THE TENTS, LYING IN TANGLED HEAPS ON THE GROUND!

FROM HIGH ON THE HILL ABOVE THE VALLEY, NOW ABRAHAM SURVEYS THE SCENE BELOW... HE HAS LITTLE MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED MEN, THE INVADING ARMY NUMBERS IN THE THOUSANDS—SO HE MUST MAKE A DIFFICULT DECISION!

JOHN LEHTI

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