Because I Live

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

John 14:19, "Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also." Jesus has 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 not alone. guide them. The apostles were saddened to think that Jesomething came up and they had only to look to him to

had told them about his death and resurrection. When he was crucified they were discouraged and thought all was lost. Sure he had raised others from the dead, but this was the master himself who had died. It was not until he arose and appeared to them that they realized that he had spoken literally of his death and resurrection. He was indeed alive and all of their sorrow turned to joy. Can you imagine how they felt to see one that had died, alive and standing and talking with them?

to spread the gospel message. They were not defeated, but were filled not only with the Holy Spirit, but with hope and joy. Persecutions awaited them and there would be many trials to face, but they went forward in faith. Jesus was with beheaded. Why did God allow James to die, but delivered them, even if the people could not see him. He saw every Peter? Only God knows the answer to that and he hasn't trial they faced and every hurt that they endured. When Pe-seen fit to tell us. While I don't know the answer to that ter was in prison in Acts 12 we see that God sent an angel I do know that James may have died physically, but lives to free him. He would go on to preach knowing that he was in the spirit. <u>John 11:25,-26</u> "Jesus said unto her, I am the

sus would leave them, although he had told them of this they might go preaching the gospel and bearing witness believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" James several times. They were used to his being there whenever of God's grace. They went knowing that they were not believed this and the other apostles and believers did too. preaching of a dead man, but about a living Savior, Jesus, find the answer. None of them could imagine being alone without him.

They didn't understand many of the things that he imagine being alone without him imagine being alone the Son of God. The Lord gave them the power to perform miracles such as healing the sick and casting out unclean spirits. They didn't just say this, but the life that they lived showed that they truly tomb and lives. He said, "because I live, ye shall live also." They knew that eternal life was theirs because the Lord overcame death and the grave. They had hope, not only in fail to watch over them. At times they were beaten, put in this life, but in the life to come. Jesus had done everything prison, wore chains, and some were even killed. Their faith that he had said that he would do.

The apostles and the other believers went forth ready his word and his people. Now some may say, "But God didn't deliver all of his people, some died." That is true, James, the brother of John was killed by Herod. When it says with the sword, it usually means that the person was resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though This is what Jesus had been preparing them for, that he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and They knew as Paul did, when he said, "We are confident, believed it and trusted in the Lord.

They knew that Jesus would never let them down, or was strong enough in the Lord that they faced these things Think of it, the same promise is ours today. Jesus is with boldness and even joy. The apostles were beaten and the same yesterday, today, and forever just as **Hebrews** threatened before they were released. "And they departed 13:8 tells us. We should be filled with joy even in the midst from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were of trials, knowing that our Lord still lives and still keeps counted worthy to suffer shame for his name." Acts 5:41.

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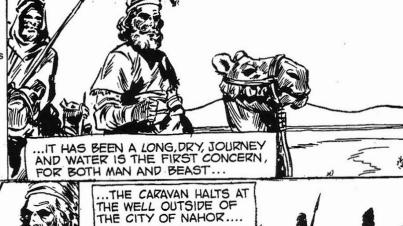
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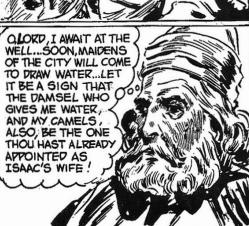
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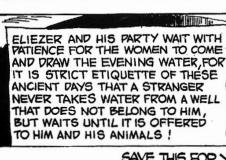
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