

empty PROMISES



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

26 As the soldiers led him away, they seized Simon from Cyrene, who was on his way in from the country, and put the cross on him and made him carry it behind Jesus.

27 A large number of people followed him, including women who mourned and wailed for him.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

²⁸ Jesus turned and said to them, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the time will come when you will say, ‘Blessed are the childless women, the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’”



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

³⁰ Then “they will say to the mountains, “Fall on us!” and to the hills, “Cover us!””

³¹ For if people do these things when the tree is green, what will happen when it is dry?”



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed.

33 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals— one on his right, the other on his left.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

³⁴ Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.” And they divided up his clothes by casting lots.

³⁵ The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is God’s Messiah, the Chosen One.”



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

- ³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar
- ³⁷ and said, “If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.”
- ³⁸ There was a written notice above him, which read:
THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: “Aren’t you the Messiah? Save yourself and us!”

⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. “Don’t you fear God,” he said, “since you are under the same sentence?”



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong.”

⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

⁴³ Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

⁴⁴ It was now about noon,
and darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon,
⁴⁵ for the sun stopped shining. And the
curtain of the temple was torn in two.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

46 Jesus called out with a loud voice,
“Father, into your hands
I commit my spirit.”
When he had said this,
he breathed his last.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

47 The centurion, seeing what had happened, praised God and said, “Surely this was a righteous man.”

48 When all the people who had gathered to witness this sight saw what took place, they beat their breasts and went away.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

⁴⁹ But all those who knew him, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

⁵⁰ Now there was a man named Joseph, a member of the Council, a good and upright man,
⁵¹ who had not consented to their decision and action. He came from the Judean town of Arimathea, and he himself was waiting for the kingdom of God.



THE EMPTY CROSS

Luke 23:26-54

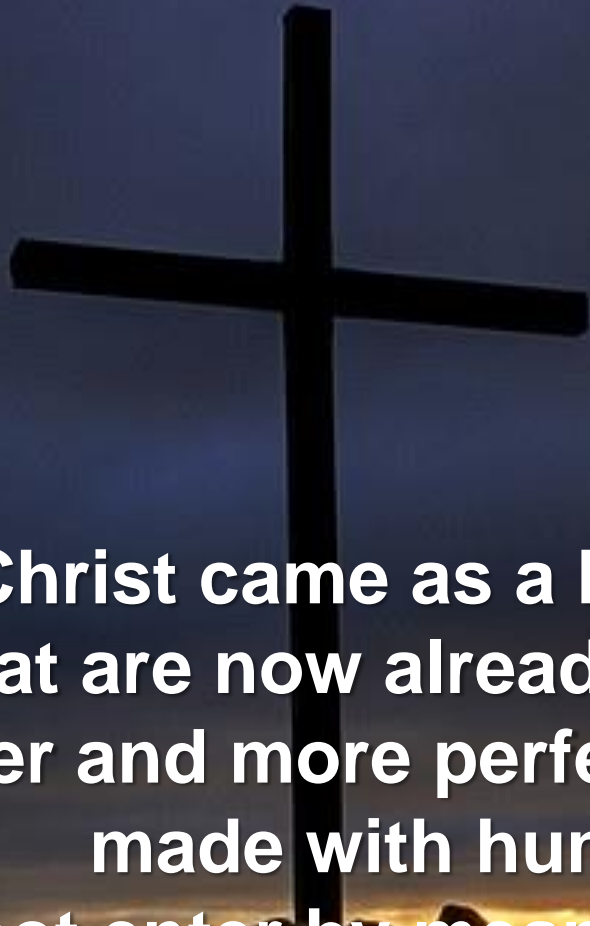
⁵² Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body.

⁵³ Then he took it down, wrapped it in linen cloth and placed it in a tomb cut in the rock, one in which no one had yet been laid.

⁵⁴ It was Preparation Day, and the Sabbath was about to begin.

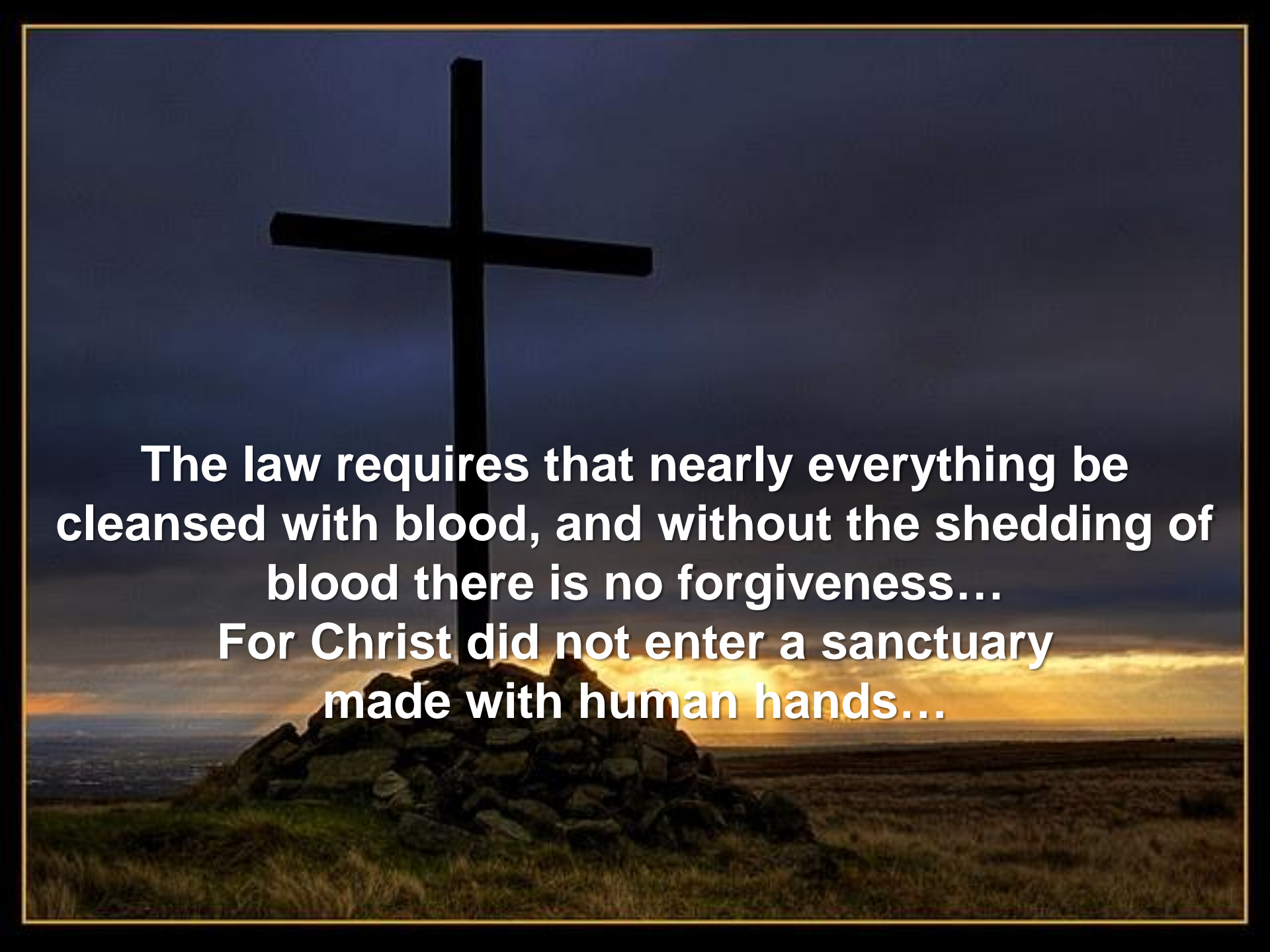




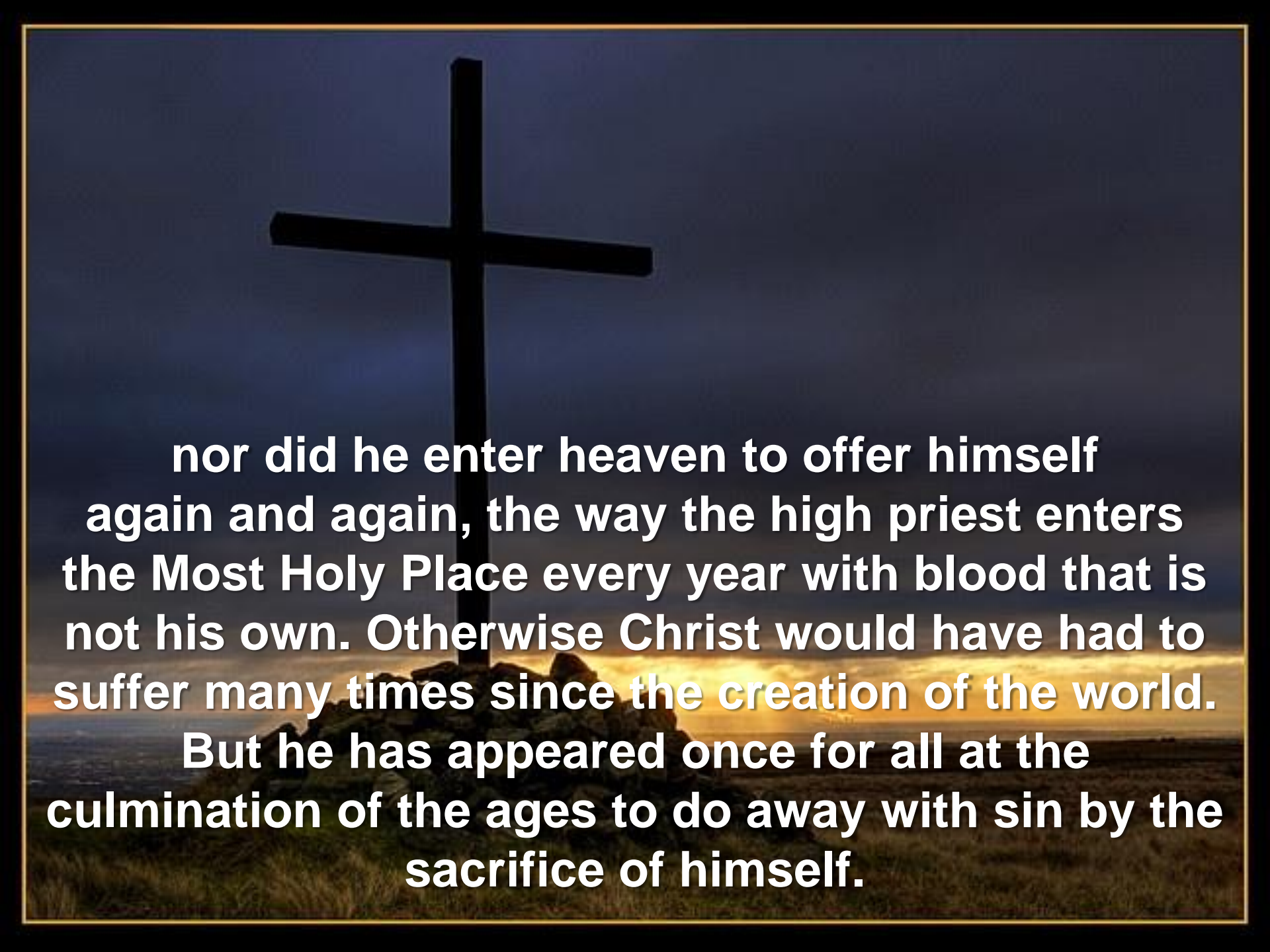


When Christ came as a high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands...

He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood...

A large, simple black cross stands on a pile of dark, jagged rocks. The scene is set in a field of tall grass under a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that transitions into a deep blue and purple sky. The cross is the central focus, its silhouette sharp against the lighter sky. The overall mood is solemn and contemplative.

**The law requires that nearly everything be
cleansed with blood, and without the shedding of
blood there is no forgiveness...
For Christ did not enter a sanctuary
made with human hands...**

A large black cross silhouette is centered in the upper half of the image, set against a dramatic sunset sky with a golden glow on the horizon. The cross stands on a rocky outcrop. Below the cross, a field of tall grass is visible in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

THE EMPTY TOMB



THE EMPTY TOMB

Luke 24:1-8

- 1 On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.**
- 2 They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,**
- 3 But when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.**



THE EMPTY TOMB

Luke 24:1-8

⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead?”



THE EMPTY TOMB

Luke 24:1-8

⁶ “He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee:

⁷ ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’”

⁸ Then they remembered his words.







Romans 6:23: “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES



THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

Luke 24:9-12

⁹ When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others.

¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and others with them who told this to the apostles.



THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

Luke 24:9-12

¹¹ But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

¹² Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.





THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

John 20:19

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”



THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

1 Corinthians 15:50-53

⁵⁰ I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

⁵¹ Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed –



THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

1 Corinthians 15:50-53

⁵² in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

⁵³ For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality.



THE EMPTY GRAVE CLOTHES

Romans 7:25a

Thanks be to God,
who delivers me through
Jesus Christ our Lord!



empty PROMISES

