

# FIRST PETER

## PART 102

### "THE VICTORY OF EASTER"

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The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the central theme of the New Testament. It is the "Good News" that we believe for our salvation and share with those who don't know Jesus Christ personally. This "finished work" of Christ guarantees complete salvation for all who believe. By faith, we know this "finished work" was done for us personally, with us individually in God's mind as Christ was sacrificed on our behalf.

So many times, however, we take the "finished work" of Christ for granted. We overlook the miraculous provision of salvation and all of the details our gracious God provided. We pay much attention to the death of Christ and skip over His activities while He was entombed. We accept the miracle of the resurrection and ignore the many other miracles that were accomplished during these three days. Remember this: The more we know and believe about the "finished work" of Christ, the more grateful we will be in our attitudes and lives.

# THE DEATH OF CHRIST

## I PETER 3:18

- He died once for all, never to be **repeated**.
- He died **spiritually** from 12:00 PM to about 2:58 PM.
- He died **physically** at 3:00 PM.
- Christ was **dead** (physically) before either of the two criminals crucified with Him.
- While His body was entombed, His divine **nature**, human soul and spirit was very active.

# THE ACTIVITY OF CHRIST "IN DEATH"

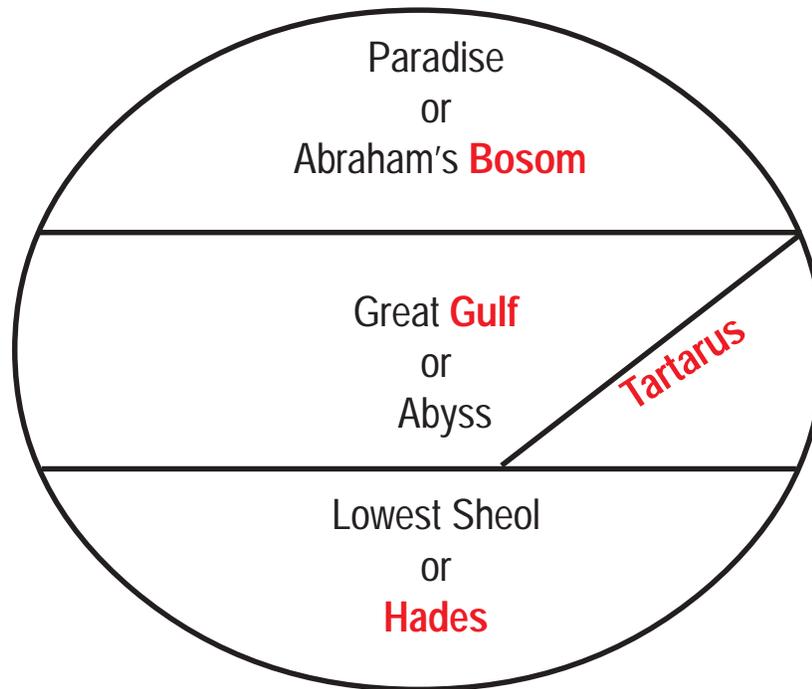
## I PETER 3:19

### He took a trip to Paradise

- The term used by the author in verse 19 means "to **travel**" or "take a trip."
- We know Christ must go to Paradise because of His **promise** to the believing criminal. (*Luke 23:43*)

## He welcomed the believing criminal into Paradise

- Christ was there **first**, *before* the robber.
- Paradise was, at that time, part of **Sheol**.



- There were two great celebrations:
  - When Christ was **united** with all the Old Testament Saints.
  - Three hours later, when Christ welcomes the **last** Old Testament saint into Paradise.

- This process proved that salvation is...
  - always by **faith** and no works are involved.
  - instantaneous when one **believes**.
  - irreversible because of the **promises** and power of Christ.

## He took authority over death away from Satan

- During the Old Testament **economy**, the devil had authority over death.  
(*Hebrews 2:14-15*)
- This victory is **assured** in Revelation 1:18.
- As a result, Paradise is **moved** when Christ is resurrected.

(To be continued)