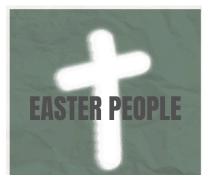
WHEN EVERYTHING CHANGED (Easter People Series, Part 4)

A Lord's Flock Worship Service Topic Fr. Alex Balatbat April 12, 2025

God's love endures amidst our life's struggles. Our hearts are transformed; we are inspired, and we are redeemed by His death on the Cross. Indeed, God is love.



1. THE MEANING OF GOD'S LOVE

- 1.1. God wants a personal relationship with us.
- 1.2. He has created His children (in His image and likeness), filled with beauty, greatness and possibility.
- 1.3. His love sends a powerful message -- His children are important to Him.
- 1.4. He chose to die on the Cross to redeem us from our sins and to give us a new life.

2. THE POWER OF GOD'S LOVE

- 2.1. Jesus embraced our humanity to understand our fears, sacrifices, and sins.
- 2.2. Jesus who felt alone on the Cross questioned why His Father has forsaken Him. And yet, Jesus entrusted His spirit to His Father on His last breath.
- 2.3. Even sin loses its power, because it is God's love that will empower us to move on.

3. HOW GOD'S GREAT LOVE IS EXEMPLIFIED IN THE SCRIPTURES

3.1. Another version of the story of the Prodigal Son, is about the Father (God the Father) who instructed the elder brother (Jesus) to look for the prodigal son (us).

Jesus, while looking for us, died on the cross. He even lit candles along the path (as a guide) for the prodigal son to find his way back to their Father's home.

- 3.2. Jesus embraced our sins, and we are invited to go back to the Father. (2 Cor. 5:21)
- 3.3. Judas would have been saved by Jesus from hell; he was invited to repent despite his betrayal.
- 3.4. Peter (despite his denials) was transformed by the love and forgiveness of Jesus; He recommitted himself to love and serve the Lord "Feed My Sheep."

Conclusion:

Even when life circumstances falter, God promises to embrace our difficulties, our shame and our sins. As Easter People, we are reminded that the love of Jesus was expressed through the Cross. Moreover, Easter people have a heart of love because of the love of God - For God so loved that He gave His only begotten Son (John 3:16).

Reflection:

- 1. What is making life difficult for you?
- 2. Do you feel alone at times?
- 3. How do you experience God's love in your life journey?

Scribes Ministry:

Transcribed by: Lorelai J. Grutas

Edited by: Vera I. Tuplano

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