



From Our Vicar

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Linger in the Liminal

Easter is a liminal moment. The Holy Week observances build the anticipation, and Easter morning with its relative stillness – even today in our 24/7 world – catches our breath.

Easter morning is a time between times. It is a pause between what was and what will be.

The scripture's account of the early morning takes us into the mystery of the empty tomb and the unbidden appearances of one not readily recognised, because so unexpected.

We see the grieving; mocking unbelief of the disciples turn to amazement, wonder and joy at what they had been told, but had never grasped. Jesus is alive. Jesus is alive! And nothing can ever be the same again.

The stillness and unscheduled, unhurried pace of the resurrection narratives, the tenderness yet directness of Jesus as he engages with his closest followers, assuring them all is well and preparing them, directing them for what their role will now be ...

All this is to be drunk in deeply by the thirsty reader, by all whose hearts are likewise thrilled at the reality of the one we know by faith, even if not by sight. Jesus is alive.

And while the disciples could not hold onto him and would no longer have his physical presence by their side, no one could take away this moment of the reality and power of God breaking into their fully conscious awareness. This moment stretched for some 40 days over which Jesus appeared to various ones in a time we might describe as 'in between' time - liminal time.

Such times - like honeymoons, long awaited holidays, Sunday afternoons, early morning rises, mealtimes, walks in the bush or along the beach - can be reminders and glimpses and opportunities to pause and reflect on our lives as gift, as human beings rather than human doings. Children who are lavishly loved by our heavenly father, brothers and sisters of Jesus, forgiven every wrong and assured of peace with hope amid all that attempts to unsettle our hearts and minds.

Linger in such moments, with Jesus. Receive the times of refreshing that are promised and made available to those who have opened their hearts and lives to the risen Lord.

Maranatha - come Lord Jesus!

Wayne

Enjoy Luke 24, John 20-21, Acts 3:12-20 and I John 3:1-6