



Wayne's Words

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Never the Same Again!

It is hard for us today to imagine how different the world would be if Jesus had not come to die and rise again. There is no area of life – education, health, marriage and family, religion, business, sport, the arts, literature and media that is not affected by the teaching and especially the death and resurrection of Jesus.

Our dating system has for centuries been measured by his life.

Jesus underwent the most humiliating and shame-filled torture and death that the ruthless Roman Empire could contrive, yet he is today revered by over two billion people across the whole globe.

How could Jesus' death be seen as anything other than the utter failure of his mission to bring people back to God and usher in the Kingdom of God on earth?

Yet how could his closest followers, meeting behind locked doors for fear that they would be next, turn around and proclaim Jesus so boldly as Messiah, and so convincingly that the movement exploded in the very city of Jesus' death? 3000 believed and were baptised on the Day of Pentecost.

What happened to the Pharisee and violent persecutor of Christians, Saul, that he became the tireless apostle to the known world, and writer of over half the New Testament - Paul.

Each claimed to have seen the risen Jesus and been sent personally by him to spread the news that the Kingdom of God had come in Jesus, the Messiah and Son of God, and that even death had not been able to hold him down.

This amazing reversal of the shame of a criminal's death to the triumphant Lord of heaven and earth is not the result of some whiz bang publicity campaign. Its truth and power have stood the test of the centuries and transformed many millions of lives – and still do. What might he yet have in mind for you - and through you for Him?

Be blessed with a reflective and joy-filled observance of this Paschal season we have come to know as Easter.

Wayne