

Daily Devotion For April 1, 2023

"The Son of Man must suffer many things... and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life." Luke 9:22

Today is April Fool's day. During this season of Lent we have been turning our thoughts and attention to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. On his way to Jerusalem where he would be crucified, Jesus told his disciples that he must suffer many things and be killed, but that on the third day he would be raised to life. Many, including Peter saw it as a fool's mission. Why would Jesus die and how would he be raised to life? Peter said in Matthew 16:22, "Never Lord! This shall not happen to you!"

The death and resurrection is at the heart of our faith. If it were not for the resurrection, we would have no hope for eternal life. Even today, people think of the death of Jesus as foolishness. Maybe that is why the apostle Paul wrote in I Corinthians 1:18, "For the message of the cross is **foolishness** to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." To the world outside of Christ, the cross may seem foolish, but for those who have trusted in Christ it means life, life today, and life for all eternity.

Thought For Today: Don't be a fool, and don't be fooled by erroneous teachings about Jesus. Jesus is the Christ, who suffered, died, and rose on the third day to give us life. What does this mean to you? **Further**

Thought: One of my favorite quotes is my Jim Elliott the missionary who was martyred by the Auca Indians in 1958. Before his death he wrote, "He is not a fool, who give up that which he cannot possess to gain that which he cannot lose."

Today's Prayer Focus: Psalm 14:1 says, "The fool says in his heart there is no God." According to this verse, do you know any fools? Take time to pray for them today that they would know the living and resurrected Jesus. Deo Volente.