

## OLD TESTAMENT

Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning (Psalm 30:5).

Come, and let us return to the Lord.... After two days He will revive us;  
on the third day He will raise us up, that we may live in His sight (Hosea 6:1,2).

Make a joyful shout to the Lord, all you lands! (Psalm 100:1).

You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy;  
at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore (Psalm 16:11).

You have ascended on high, You have led captivity captive....  
Our God is the God of salvation;  
And to God the Lord belong escapes from death (Psalm 68:18,20).

The God of Israel is like morning light, [when] the sun rises on a cloudless morning;  
from brightness, from rain, grass comes out of the earth (2 Samuel 23: 4).

“Now I will rise,” says the Lord; “Now I will be exalted,  
Now I will lift Myself up” (Isaiah 33:10).

## NEW TESTAMENT

“Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24).

“[Y]ou will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. A woman, when she is in labor, has sorrow because her hour has come; but as soon as she has given birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you” (John 16:20-22).

### ***The Story in Matthew 28:1-10:***

Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.... [He] said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.”

So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word. And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, “Rejoice!” And they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there will they see Me.”

***The Story in John 20:1-16:***

On the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.... Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. And she saw two angels in white.... Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

***From Luke 24:50-53:***

And He led them [the disciples] out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple praising and blessing God.

## **FROM THE HEAVENLY DOCTRINES**

### **The Lord's Purpose in Coming on Earth**

The Lord from eternity, who is Jehovah, came into the world to subdue the hells and to glorify His Human. Without this no mortal could have been saved, and those are saved who believe in Him (*True Christian Religion* 2).

The Lord's Divine Power is the Divine Power of saving the human race. By that power of the Lord's and by no other is a person saved; for all good that belongs to love and all truth that belongs to faith flow in from the Lord by way of the heavens.... When He was in the world the Lord overcame the hells and restored the heavens to order, and acquired for Himself Divine Power over them (see *Arcana Coelestia* 10019:3).

The Lord came into the world that He might save the human race, which otherwise would have perished. He saved them by subjugating the hells...and at the same time by glorifying His Human (see *New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrine* 293).

The Lord came into the world to render salvation possible to people. Without His advent no mortal could have been reformed and regenerated, and so saved. But this became possible after the Lord had deprived the devil (that is, hell) of all his power; and had glorified His Human, that is, had united it to the Divine of His Father. If these things had not been done, no person would have been capable of permanently receiving any Divine truth, still less any Divine good (*Doctrine of the Lord* 17:1).

## **At the Tomb**

The “great earthquake” that occurred when the angel descended from heaven and rolled away the stone from the mouth of the sepulcher means that the state of the church was altogether changed. For the Lord then rose again, and in respect to His Human assumed all dominion over heaven and earth, as He Himself says in Matthew (28:18). “The angel rolled away the stone from the mouth and sat upon it” means that the Lord removed all the falsity that had shut off access to Him (*Apocalypse Explained* 400:14).

[T]he “stone” that was placed before the sepulcher, and that was rolled away by the angel, symbolizes Divine truth, thus the Word, which was...opened by the Lord (*Apocalypse Explained* 687:18).

Because the angels are clothed with garments in heaven, when seen in the world they have appeared clothed with garments, as those seen by the prophets and also those seen at the Lord’s sepulchre, “Whose appearance was as lightning, and their garments glistening and white” (*Heaven and Hell* 180).

## **The Lord’s Resurrection**

Because the Lord fully glorified His natural humanity even to the lasts of it, therefore He rose again with the whole body as no other person does (*Divine Love and Wisdom* 221:2).

As the Lord’s Human was glorified, that is, made Divine, He rose again after death on the third day with His whole body, which does not take place with any person; for a person rises again solely as to the spirit, and not as to the body. In order that people may know, and no one doubt, that the Lord rose again with His whole body, He not only said so through the angels in the sepulcher, but also showed Himself to His disciples in His human body, saying to them when they believed that they saw a spirit: “See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; handle Me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see Me have” (see *Doctrine of the Lord* 35:9).

As people rise again after death, therefore the Lord willed to undergo death and to rise again the third day, but to the end that He might put off everything human that He had from the mother and might put on the Divine Human. For everything human that the Lord took from the mother He rejected from Himself by temptations, and finally by death. By putting on a Human from the Divine Itself that was in Him He glorified Himself, that is, made His Human Divine. Therefore in heaven His death and burial do not mean death and burial, but the purification of His Human, and glorification. That this is so the Lord taught by this comparison with wheat falling into the earth, which must die that it may bear fruit (*Apocalypse Explained* 899:14).

The Lord’s resurrection on the third morning embodies the truth that He rises daily, indeed every single moment, in the minds of regenerated people (see *Arcana Coelestia* 2405:8).

## **The Inner Meaning of “Morning”**

“[T]he dawn” or “the morning” means the coming of the Lord or approach of His kingdom. Thus “sunrise” or its going forth over the earth is His actual arrival or presence (*Arcana Coelestia* 2441).

Morning symbolizes “the Lord, and the things which are from Him, such as peace, innocence, love, and joy....The reason why ‘the morning’ and ‘early’ mean these things is that the changing seasons through the year of spring, summer, autumn, and winter, and also the changing times through the day of morning, midday, evening, and night correspond to just so many states in heaven. Morning accordingly corresponds to the coming and presence of the Lord, which takes place when an angel enters a state of peace, innocence, and heavenly love, and consequently has a feeling of joy (*Arcana Coelestia* 9387).

## **Joy in His Presence**

There are two universal origins of all spiritual joys, one is from the affection or love of truth, the other from the affection or love of good. Joy from the affection of good belongs properly to the will and to deeds therefrom, while joy from the affection of truth belongs properly to the understanding and to speech therefrom (*Apocalypse Explained* 1218).

He [the Lord] rises again with every person who is being regenerated (*Arcana Coelestia* 2917).

The Lord is present with every person, urging and pressing him to receive Him. And when a person receives Him, which happens when he acknowledges Him as his God, the Creator, Redeemer and Savior, this is His first coming, and is called twilight. From this time the person begins to have his understanding enlightened as regards spiritual matters, and to advance to more and more inward wisdom. As he receives this wisdom from the Lord, so he advances through morning into day; and he continues in this daylight up to old age and until he dies. After death he comes into heaven to the Lord Himself, and there, for all that he died an old man, he is brought back to the morning of his life, and continues for ever to develop the wisdom which was implanted in him in the natural world (*True Christian Religion* 766).