

“EVANGELISM”
Beyond The Flesh ... Living For Paradise
John 20:11-18

John 20:17; Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God.’”

Introduction: Jesus is shown post-resurrection revealing His presence by teaching His disciples a greater truth. Through His resurrection, we are no longer defined by sin but by who we are in Him. Believers share in a restored relationship with the Father to live a new life beyond the flesh.

Central Focus: Jesus died for sin, He lives beyond the flesh, so we can live with Him in paradise, the cross completed the work, but the resurrection confirmed the victory.

(1). Sacrificial Solution: Humanity was disconnected from God through Adam’s sin but restored through Christ’s obedience. Christ became the substitute for sin, taking our place so we could receive the righteousness of God. **For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. 2 Corinthians 5:21**

(2). Spiritual Shift: The resurrection moves us from natural limits to spiritual reality beyond the flesh. This happens when we release the carnal mindset to walk in the Spirit within us. **“Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth”. Colossians 3:2**

(3). Share The Promise: The promise of paradise was never meant to be kept private, believers are called to tell the story. When we share our testimony, it shows what God has already done in our lives. **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy. Psalm 107:2**

Conclusion: God solved the problem, shifted our position, and now calls us to share the promise. **Eternal life is not just a promise, it is the message we carry by living beyond the flesh.**

Beyond The Flesh ... Living For Paradise

What does it mean to live beyond the flesh? Are you living for paradise? To live beyond the flesh is to walk in the new life Christ made available through His resurrection. What Jesus finished on the cross was revealed at the tomb. The resurrection is not just an event, it is an opportunity to have a personal encounter with the risen Savior. This encounter moves believers from routine Christianity into relationship with the Savior. Embracing a Spirit-led life shapes thoughts, desires, and decisions by God’s truth. Confidence grows in a restored relationship with the Father, where identity is defined by His promise. This life reflects purpose, peace and power. It rises above natural limits into spiritual strength and the promise of paradise.

What and where is paradise? Paradise is the place of eternal life where believers will dwell in the presence of God, free from sin, pain, and separation. It is the promise of restored fellowship with the Father, secured through Jesus Christ, where life is complete, whole, and everlasting. To live for paradise means living with eternity in mind while walking in purpose today. Believers align their lives with God’s will, grow a deeper relationship with the Father, and reflect His character daily. Today, let us be encouraged to live beyond the flesh. We will all make a difference when we live for paradise with purpose and seek a true relationship with the Father. Yes and AMEN!

.... Living For Paradise....

- Where your mindset is determines how your life is lived. If your mind stays on the flesh, your life will follow the flesh.
- When we shift our thoughts to above our lives will rise to heavenly and divine things. Keep your focus on God’s truth, not earthly distractions.

Be Transformed, Live Set Apart

***Beyond The Flesh ... Living For Paradise
(John 20:11-18)***

SNAPSHOT

Who: Mary Magdalene, a devoted follower of Jesus, and the risen Christ appearing after the resurrection.

What: Mary weeps at the tomb, encounters Jesus, and is commissioned to carry the message of His resurrection to the disciples.

When: Early on the first day of the week, immediately following the resurrection.

Where: At the tomb, just outside where Jesus had been laid.

Why: To reveal that Jesus is alive, to restore the relationship with the Father, and to entrust believers with the responsibility to share the good news.

How: Through a personal encounter that shifts believers from grief to purpose, from confusion to clarity, and from holding on to the past to walking in their divine assignments.

THE STORY

Mary stands at the tomb in sorrow, expecting what was lost, but encounters the risen Savior who reveals what God has done. In this moment, Jesus calls her by name and shifts her from grief to purpose, showing that the resurrection is personal and powerful.

Through this encounter, Jesus teaches that our relationship with the Father is now restored, and believers are no longer bound to the past but called to live beyond the flesh. Mary is then sent to share the message, showing that a true encounter with Christ always leads to purpose, proclamation, and a life lived for the promise.

REFLECTION / APPLICATION

When believers encounter the risen Christ, their lives shift from the natural to the spiritual, reflecting His power in how they live each day. Living beyond the flesh requires more than belief, it calls for a renewed mind, a Spirit-led walk, and a commitment to God's truth.

A true relationship with the Father moves beyond routine and becomes evident through purpose, growth, and daily obedience. As we live for paradise, our lives become a testimony that shares His promise and leads others to Him.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father; Thank You for revealing Yourself through Jesus Christ. Help us to move beyond the flesh and walk in the new life You have given. Teach us to release every carnal mindset and embrace a Spirit-led life that reflects Your truth, strengthening us to live with purpose and a deeper relationship with You each day.

Lord, guide us to live for paradise with eternity in mind and a heart set on You. Teach us to stay focused on what is above and to share the promise through our lives. Prepare us to reflect Your character daily as we grow in You. Yes and AMEN.

Rev. Dr. Clarence Jackson