

## Free from the Agony of Death

### Introduction and Review

- Christ was murdered along with betrayal, premeditation and manipulation according to the scriptures
- Christ was buried in a borrowed tomb of a wealthy man according to the scriptures (Is. 53:9)
- Christ was gloriously resurrected from the dead by the power of God according to the scriptures
- The apostles were witnesses for Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit according to the scriptures (Ac. 1:8)

### I. Attested By God In Life & Death (v. 22-23)

#### A. In Christ's life (v. 22)

*God the Father validated that Jesus was the Messiah with undeniable divine deeds: mighty works, wonders & signs (v. 22). These divine deeds pointed to God as the source (Mt. 11:2-6).*

#### B. In Christ's death (v. 23)

*The death of Christ for sinners was purposeful, predetermined & essential to God's plan of redemption – "definite" & "foreknowledge". Even though God is sovereign in His rule, sinners are responsible & accountable for the murder of Christ – "you crucified and killed".*

***Christ was attested by God in His life & death.***

### II. Resurrected By God From Death (v. 24-28)

#### A. Freed from the power of death (v. 24-26)

*The power/ sting of death is sin & its consequences (1Co. 15:55-56). In the resurrection, Jesus fully experienced the agony of death & He was victorious with divine power (v. 24) – "it was not possible..." [2Tim. 1:10; Rev. 1:17-18]. The resurrection gives confidence, joy & hope (v. 25-26).*

#### B. Freed from the decay of death (v. 27-28)

*Decay of the physical body after death is a natural process since the sin in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:19). Jesus was not dead in the grave long enough for decay or decomposition of His body (v. 27; Mt. 12:40; Jn. 2:46; Mk. 10:34).*

*There is fullness of joy in God's presence after the resurrection (v. 28).*

***Christ was freed from the power & decay of death in the resurrection!***