

The Berean BANNER

Senior Pastor ~ John Wetzig
Youth Pastor ~ Benji Hall

P.O. Box 248
Grenada, CA 96038
530-436-2529
office@grenadaberean.org
www.grenadaberean.org

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HOPE RENEWED

It was dark outside, and even darker in their minds. Hope had been extinguished. It had died on a cross outside the city.

The disciples had come to the city in anticipation, even though there was a sense of dread. Surely now Jesus would bring in His kingdom! Their excitement was revealed in their discussions just before entering Jerusalem. "Who is greatest among us?" "Lord, grant that we may sit on your right and left sides when you come into your kingdom." There was a certain amount of fear, knowing that Jesus' ascendancy would not be received well by the Jewish leadership. But hey, Jesus was the miracle worker. Surely he would overcome.

And then the disaster in the garden. The dark of night

when one of their own betrayed their leader. Jesus had been taken by force, and he refused to allow his followers to give any resistance. Watching him arrested, bound and dragged before the officials. Watching in growing fear as he refused to defend himself. Finally turning and running, even denying him. At a distance they saw him nailed to a cross as a common criminal, watched his blood flow and the life drain from his body. They watched as some others, not of their company, took his body down and buried it in a tomb.

Hope died when Jesus died. And the dark of night drowned out the light of hope in their souls.

Suddenly, a knock on the door. "Who's there?"

"It's Mary. The tomb - it's empty. They've taken Jesus body out, and we don't know where they put it."

Of all the... What an insult! Couldn't they even leave him alone when he was dead?

Peter and John grabbed their robes and ran out the door. John, being younger, made better time than the old fisherman Peter. He got to the tomb, and sure enough the stone was rolled away. He stooped and looked in. The linen cloth was there, but no body.

Peter, panting and puffing, arrived then, and walked

straight into the tomb. He also saw the cloth used to wrap the body, and the separate face-cloth rolled up to the side. Jesus was gone.

Even then they didn't understand. The body was gone, but where, why? They had forgotten Jesus' predictions about the resurrection. Quietly, sadly, they returned to their home.

That evening the whole group gathered again in the upper room. Mary Magdalene had reported seeing Jesus alive, yet, they shut and locked the door, still fearful that they Jewish leaders might come for them.

Suddenly Jesus Himself stood in front of them. "Peace be with you." It was His voice. He showed them his hands and side, the nail holes and spear thrust were still very evident. "Peace be with you", He said again.







Jesus was alive! The darkness that had flooded their minds dissipated as the light of this hope began to glow.

Their hopes and dreams of an earthly kingdom appeared very small as they grasped the significance of the resurrection. Death was defeated! Its power and control over them was destroyed. This King Jesus was far greater than any earthly king. His resurrection brought a whole new reality.

Easter is so much more than bunnies laying eggs or the renewal of life in spring. We celebrate the most important event in history! "Death is swallowed up in victory! O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

April 2012

Grenada Community Berean Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Palm Sunday 12:00 noon Church Board 12:00 noon Missions Meeting 6:00pm High School Youth Group	2 8:30 am Moms in Prayer at Jann Ward's 6:00pm Women's Bible Study @ Michelle Clem's	3 6:30 am Youth Discipleship @ Pastor Benji's 10:00am Women's Bible Study in HeBrews	4 6 pm Pizza Kitchen 6:30 pm Awana 6:30 pm Jr. High 6:30PM Men's Study	5 6:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Purple Plum 6:30pm Worship Choir Rehearsal	6 Good Friday Service 7:00pm 	7
8 Gary Horne He is Risen! 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service at the Warner's 8:15am Potluck Breakfast at the church 10:00am Easter Worship Service & Baptism 	9 6:00pm Women's Bible Study @ Michelle Clem's	10 10:00am Women's Bible Study in HeBrews	11 All Church Roller Skating 1:00 - 3:00pm Roller Odyssey Medford No Awana or Jr. High	12 6:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Purple Plum	13 11:00am meet at church for ATF Acquire the Fire In Sacramento 	14 7:30 am Men's 2nd Saturday Ministry
15 6:00pm High School Youth Group	16 8:30 am Moms in Prayer at Jann Ward's 6:00pm Women's Bible Study @ Michelle Clem's	17 6:30 am Youth Discipleship @ Pastor Benji's 10:00am Women's Bible Study in HeBrews	STORE NIGHT! 6 pm Pizza Kitchen 6:30 pm Awana 6:30 pm Jr. High 6:30PM Men's Study	19 6:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Purple Plum	20 Bridal Shower for Rachael Greenman In HeBrews 12:00noon 	21
22 Soup, Salad, & Silent Auction Missions Fundraiser 12:00 noon 6:00pm High School Youth Group	23 8:30 am Moms in Prayer at Jann Ward's 6:00pm Women's Bible Study @ Michelle Clem's	24 6:30 am Youth Discipleship @ Pastor Benji's	25 Rochelle Soule' AWANA GRAND FINALE!!! 6 pm Pizza Kitchen 6:30 pm Awana 6:30 pm Jr. High 6:30PM Men's Study	26 6:30 am Men's Bible Study @ Purple Plum 4:15pm CE meeting @ Wetzigs	27 Mike & Connie Hendryx	28 Dienske Fraser Michele Johnson Mike Parker Women's Testimony Tea 10:00am 
29 12:00 noon All Church Potlunch 6:00pm High School Youth Group	30 8:30 am Moms in Prayer at Jann Ward's			Sunday Morning Schedule: 8:15 am Informal Service in HeBrews 9:30 am Sunday School for all ages 2-adult (infant nursery) 10:20 am Fellowship Time 10:45 am Main Worship Service		



Easter Services

Good Friday, April 6

*7:00 pm Good Friday Service
at the Church*

*Remember the Lord's Passion ~
Communion*

Easter Sunday, April 8

*7:00 am Sunrise Service
at the Warner's*

7031 River Ranch Rd., Montague

*8:15 am Potluck Breakfast
at the church ~*

*Please bring breakfast
type food.*

*10:00 am Easter Worship Service
followed by a baptism*

*if you would like to be baptized, please contact
one of our pastors or call the church office.*



“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures...”

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Coming Up Beyond April...

*May 5 Missions Yard Sale for Short
Term Missions*

May 12 Men's 2nd Saturday Ministry

May 18-20 Men's Retreat

*June 9 -10 50th Anniversary of our
church*

June 18-22 Vacation Bible School

*July 1-14 Short Term Missions Trip
to Kamloops, BC*

July 24-27 Jr. Camp at Indian Scotty

*August 31-September 3 Annual All
Church Campout at Kidder Creek*