

# The King's Highway

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## Easter

GREETINGS:

"I am He that liveth, and was dead; and behold, I am alive for ever more, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."



### EASTER IN ME

Dark was the myst'ry that shadowed the cross.

All the disciples had hoped for was lost,  
There in the grave lay the Form they adored—  
Broken and crucified, Jesus, their Lord.  
Day gently breaks as the women appear  
Bringing the spices that love had prepared.  
Easter now dawns on the field of the strife  
Dawning to welcome the Bringer of Life.

Black my horizon, deep my despair,  
No ray of comfort and hope glimmers there;  
Sin has enslaved and harassed my soul,  
Battered and helpless, no power to control.  
Jesus has risen, I hear soldiers tell,  
Can He the power of Satan dispel?  
Will Easter dawn for me weary of strife?  
Jesus, arise in me, Giver of life.

To me the power of Thy rising impart,  
Give me a steadfast, immovable heart,  
Uncompromising, unstaggering faith,  
Ready for service or ready for death.  
Give me communion, refreshing and sweet,  
Dayspring each morning my spirit to greet.  
Jesus of Easter, Thy beauty I see;  
Conquerer of death, create Easter in me.

—Selected

### THE EASTER MESSAGE

Last Easter, when my voice was lifted up  
To sing the praises of my Risen Lord,  
I had not tasted sorrow's bitter cup,  
The music held for me no minor chord.  
This Eastertide my stricken heart sends us  
The strains I lift in accents clear and strong;  
For I have drained the dregs of sorrow's cup,  
And learned the meaning of the Easter Song.

I know the sweetness of the minor Chord,  
The Glory of the major full and clear,  
I know the power of my Risen Lord—  
He lives, and they shall live whom I hold dear.

And though I cannot help the tears that flow,  
And though my heart is sad as heart can be  
I sing the Easter Song, because I know  
The blessed Easter Message is for Me.

—Author Unknown



### MY RISEN LORD

O Risen Lord, with all Thy life and power,  
With Thy constraining love, come Thou to me;  
Raise from sin's death, give me Thy Spirit's Power,  
And may I know Thy full salvation see.

Speak Thou to me, as Thou did'st speak to Mary;  
Thou my soul's Love, its true and only choice.  
Without Thee, Lord, I burdened am and weary,  
And long to hear the accents of Thy voice.

Come Thou to me in all Thy radiant glory,  
And shine in gracious beauty through my soul;  
Then bid me go and tell the wondrous story  
How Christ, the living Saviour, can make whole.

Not a dead Christ, but living in me ever,  
Transforming life, its duties and its powers;  
"Rabboni," Master, I am Thine forever,  
At Thy blest service through time's fleeting hours.

### EASTER AND THE PRESENT

Easter has always had its message for the life beyond. The resurrection of Jesus answered for all time one of the deepest problems that ever challenged human thought. One of the questions that all races and tongues have been asking is, Whither am I going? What lies beyond? Is there existence on the other side of the grave? Shall the life that I now live continue after death? When our Lord came out of the tomb that persistent inquiry was answered once and for all. He demonstrated the continuity of life. He destroyed death. He conquered the grave. We know now that there is a life beyond, and that there is a home beyond.

But we are not to wait until death overtakes us

before we begin to enjoy the benefits of the Savior's resurrection. To the early disciples it was an immediate possession of infinite worth. They began to act like men to whom there had come a great personal victory. Their attitude toward life here and now was instantly and completely changed.

The first Easter and every one since has put new hope into the heart of the believer. He is not one who beats the air, living his life in uncertainty. He feels that there is in his members a strength which he could not otherwise possess. It was manifest in the life of Peter and John and the rest of those first Christians. The people who knew them before Jesus went into the grave and after He came out could not account for the difference in the way they looked at things. Some-

thing had registered itself in their souls. They had been mightily transformed; and it was the resurrection of Jesus that did it. True, they looked forward to being with their Lord at some future time, but they also realized every day they lived His risen power.

One of the messages of Easter is the assurance it gives to the outcome of life. We are not to be beaten back into inglorious defeat. We can stand rebuff and temptation and grief for part of the span of the present life for we know what joy and freedom and fullness of life awaits us on the other side. We can afford to walk with the tread of a conqueror. We dare not be careless, but we may be confident. Each returning Easter sets the seal of conquest upon those who are Christ's.—Selected.