

..a time for deciding

Easter means different things to different people and it would be easy to miss its true significance amongst the chocolate eggs and a few days off in front of the telly!

The real challenge of Easter is a matter of everlasting life and death.

The Lord Jesus Christ says...

I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

John 11:25-26

...and we're left in no doubt as to what's at stake...

Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

John 3:18



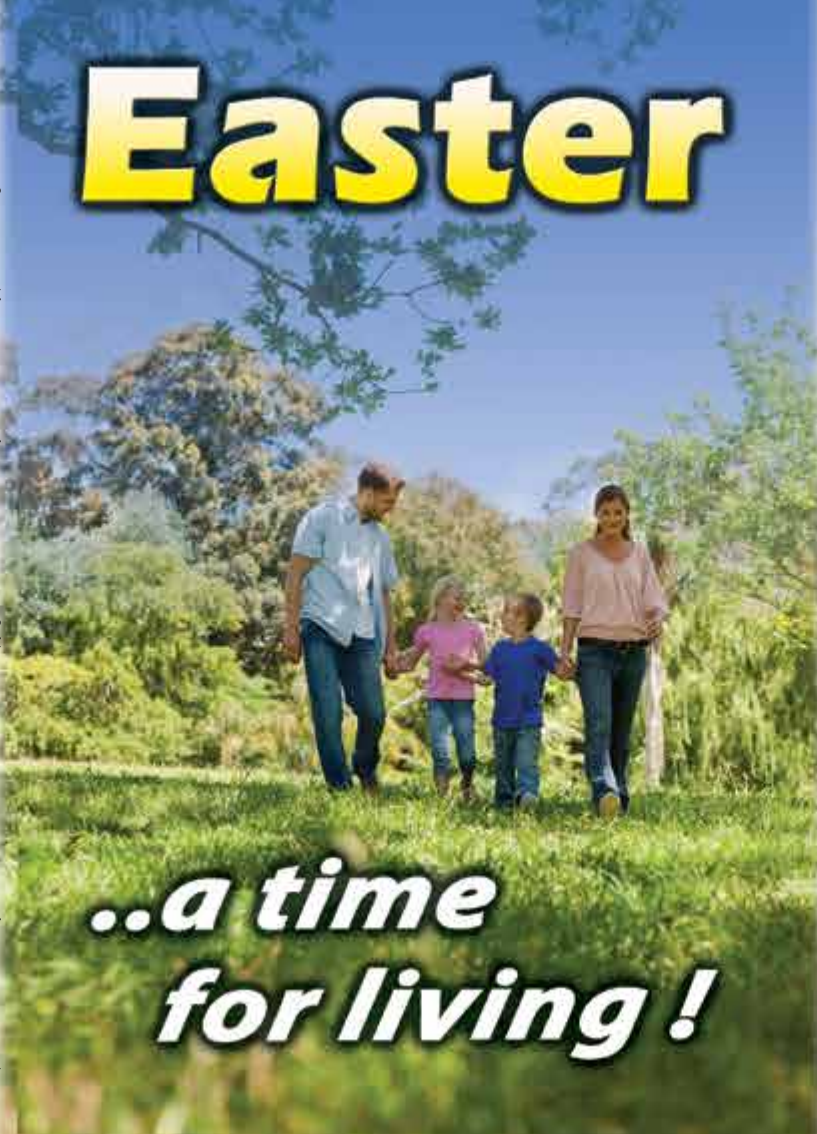
Now is always the right time to discover the real life that only Easter offers!

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4 Mossedge Ind. Est., Linwood PA3 3HR Tel: 01505 228208
E-mail: info@telitquick.org

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Easter

..a time for living !



..a time for living ?

Spring... a time for buds and blossom... when we can put behind us the cold, dark winter and enjoy the promise of the new year.

Yet despite these signs of new life, many of us are still plagued with relationship difficulties, health worries and employment uncertainty.

The future can look just as bleak as the past, and some of us might even begin to despair of life itself.

But, in the message of Easter, there is a real answer...



No matter how difficult things may be, we can find God's peace and fulfilment this Easter...

Easter Greetings from

...if we're willing to look in the right direction
- the way to real living.

..a time for acknowledging

On the Thursday before Easter, foot washing ceremonies are held in different parts of the world. This is in memory of the Lord Jesus Christ washing His disciples' feet at the Last Supper. But it's also a reminder that if we're to find a right relationship with God, our lives need to be made clean from the inside...

What comes out of a person is what defiles them. For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. All these evils come from inside and defile a person.

Mark 7:20-23

Even the best of us are simply not good enough...

...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

Romans 3:23

...with unthinkable consequences...

...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment...

Hebrews 9:27

But thankfully, because of Easter, there is an answer...



..a time for turning

Many seek the Lord's approval and acceptance during the period of Lent, the 40 days prior to Easter. But we can never get 'right' with our Maker through self-denial, no matter how sincere...

To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.

Proverbs 21:3

The only way is through Christ Jesus who says...

...I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

Only He is able to say this because it was through His perfect life and sacrificial death on the Cross of Calvary that the righteous anger of God the Father was satisfied on our behalf. He died in our place... taking the penalty we deserve...

For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.

1 Peter 3:18

But this doesn't automatically put us 'right' with God. With His help, and in view of what was done for us on that wooden cross, we must turn away from all we know to be wrong...

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness...

1 Peter 2:24



..a time for receiving

The key to new life and a new destiny is in a new birth. And the answer the Lord Jesus gave to a 1st century 'seeker' is the same He gives today...

Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.

John 3:3

This was made possible for us when He rose to life again on the first Easter Day. And when we ask Him into our lives by faith to be our Saviour and Lord we receive forgiveness and a completely new start...

...to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.

John 1:12

...if anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation; the old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

..and renouncing

As our Maker He has the right to order our daily living. And therefore in making it our aim to please Him in everything, so we discover His best for us...

...I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

John 10:10

..a time for giving

Although we must receive all that Christ Jesus has done for us as a free gift, there is also a cost involved for us... the cost of commitment.



These are the terms which the Lord Jesus sets out for all who would be His true followers...

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it.

Luke 9:23-24