

MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL BULLETIN NO 4

This weekend is Easter weekend, when we remember the death and rising again of the Lord Jesus. You may think you know what happened very well, but it is always good to think of what Jesus did for people like you and me. We need to remind ourselves just what it cost the Lord Jesus to save sinful people and make it possible to bring them to Heaven at the end of their life.

Why Pilate washed his hands



Look at Matthew 27

Pilate was the Governor of Jerusalem. The Jews had arrested the Lord Jesus and tried Him during the night. They wanted to put Him to death, so they brought Him to the Roman governor.

1) Why do you think that was? *they didn't like His authority / He made them feel uncomfortable / they were too proud to recognise the promised Messiah*
(cross out any you think are wrong)

Pilate usually released one prisoner at this time of year (the feast of the Passover). 2) Who did Pilate suggest he might release (2 names v 17)

3) What was Barabbas? (v 16; see also **Mark 15 v 7**)



4) Who did the priests and elders get the crowd to choose for release? (v20-23)

Imagine the noise: an angry crowd all shouting loudly. Pilate was worried there might be a riot. So he released Barabbas and crucified Jesus.



5) Who do you think Pilate really wanted to release?
He knew Jesus was innocent. **Read verse 24.**

6) What did Pilate do as a symbol that he was not guilty of sending Jesus to His death?
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We've been doing that a lot lately! We do it to keep our hands clean of any germs.

7) Do you think you can wash sin and guilt away by using soap and water?

After Pilate had done that, he gave the command for Jesus to be crucified. We know that Jesus was put to death on a cross. But He is the Son of God. He could have stopped that at any time. But He went to His death willingly, a truly innocent Person, so that He could take the anger of God against sin. Jesus suffered great pain and agony. He was even left alone by His Father. Read verse 45-46. How terrible! Even the sun was hidden while this awesome event took place.

8) What happened when Jesus died? (v 51)

*The veil of the temple stopped people entering the Holiest Place. Now it was gone. That means that God the Father accepted His Son's death as a perfect sacrifice for the sin of people who will trust in Him. The Lord Jesus had **redeemed** His people. Those who come to Him, sorry for their sins and trusting in what Jesus did on the cross, are now seen as perfect as Jesus Himself! That is amazing!*



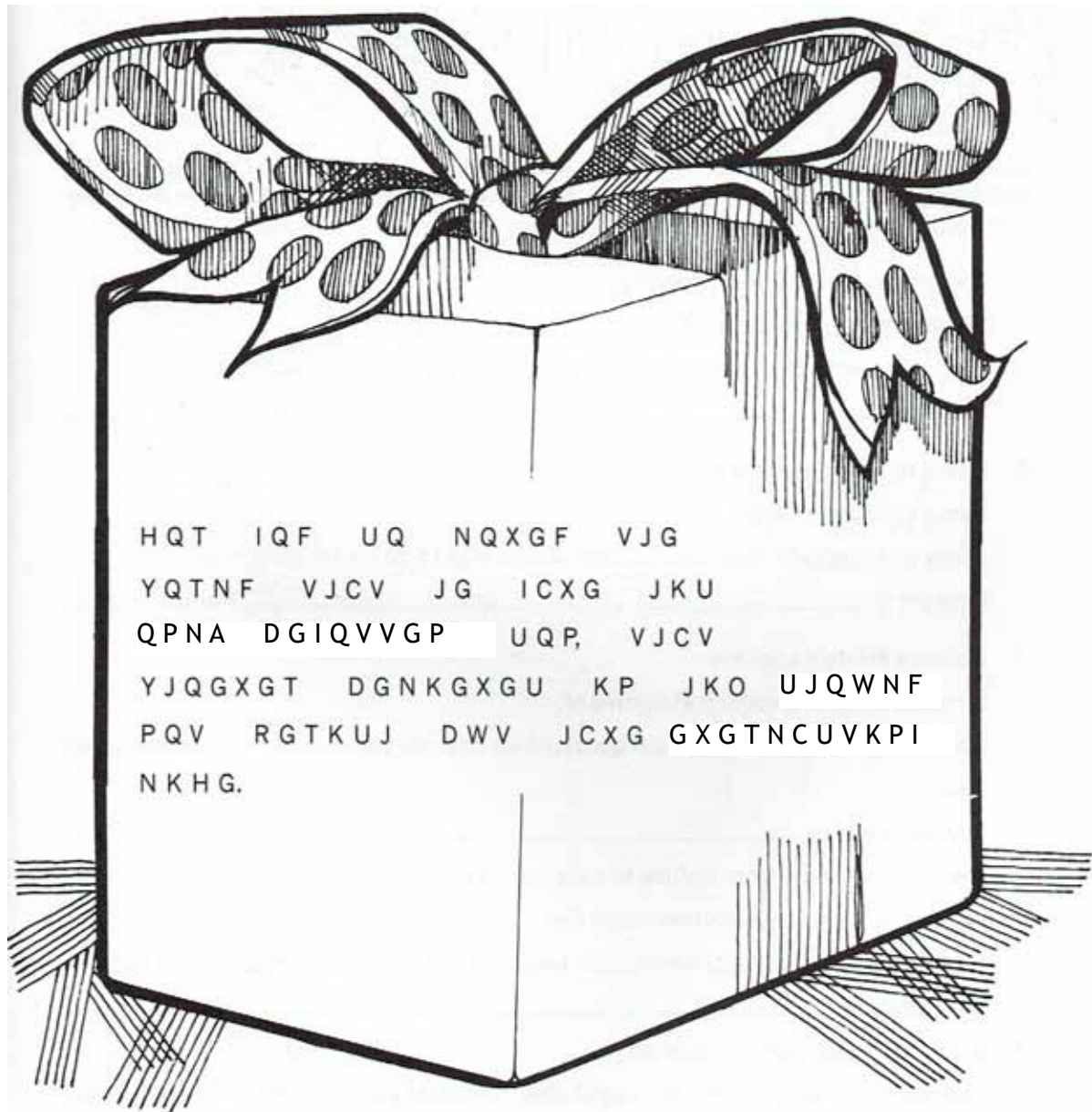
Soap and water will not clean our hearts of sin, but Jesus' death will if we trust in Him. Have you thanked the Lord Jesus for coming to earth to take away your sin?

Jesus did not stay dead. After 3 days He came back to life. He appeared to many of His followers. Then He returned to Heaven. One day He is coming back. Are you ready?

God's Easter Gift To Us

Can you work out what this says? You need to take each letter and go back 2 letters in the alphabet. Here is an alphabet to help you. The first word is done for you.

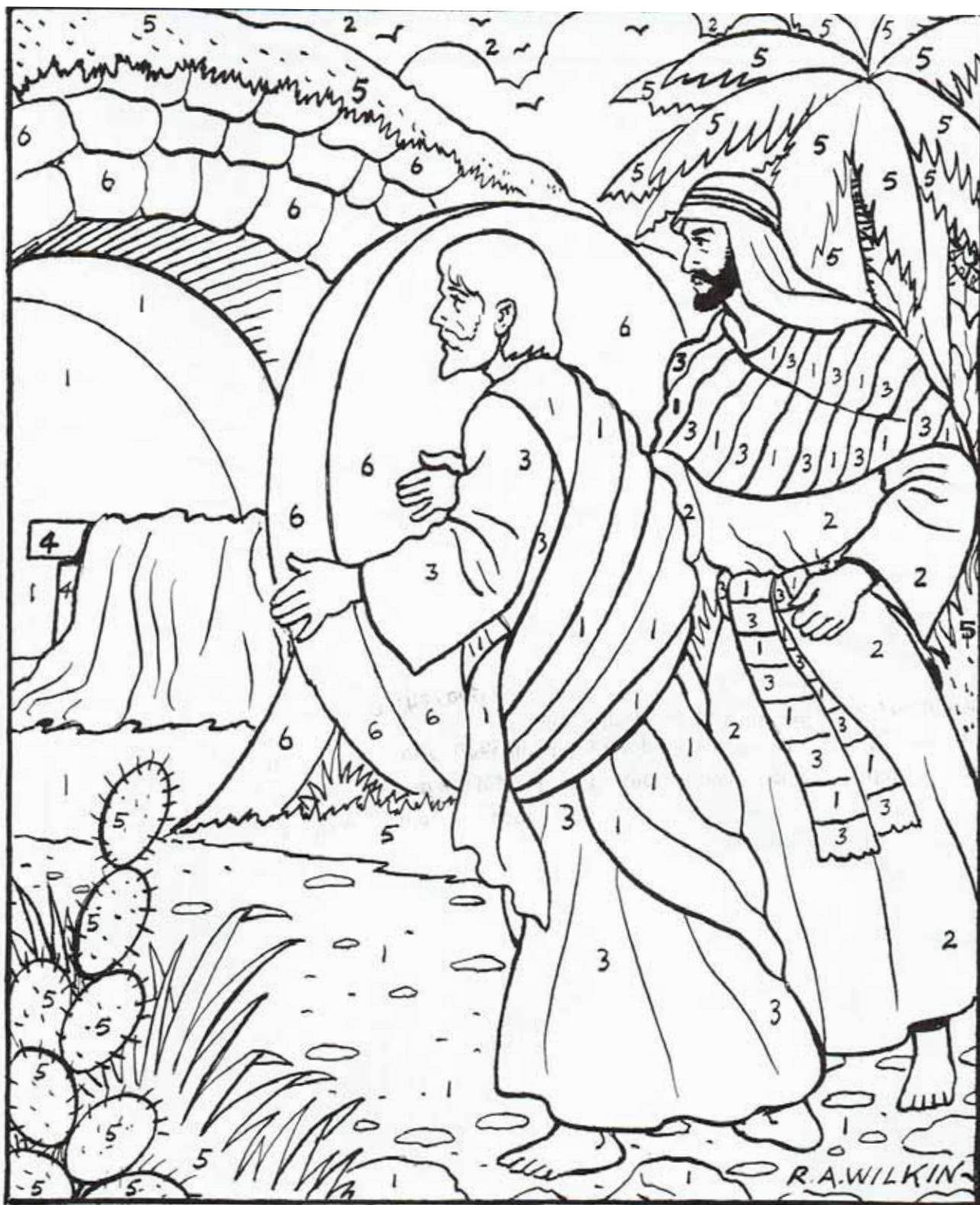
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



F O R _ _ _ _ _
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A picture to colour for younger ones

Peter and John went to the place where Jesus' body had been laid. They found He was not there any more – He had come alive again! Colour this using the number code below.



1. YELLOW
2. BLUE
3. RED

4. ORANGE
5. GREEN
6. LIGHT BROWN

Why do we call it “Good Friday” ?

The day Jesus died was a very sad day, but it was a good day for people like you and me. Without Jesus giving His life on the cross, there would be no forgiveness for you and me when we come trusting in Jesus. Colour in the shapes with a dot in them to find out what the Roman centurion and others found out about Jesus.

The good news of the Gospels is that.....



THINGS TO DO

Try to memorise the Bible verses on these sheets.

Spend some time reading through the Gospel accounts of what happened at the first Easter. Write down things that you notice as you read that you had never seen or realised before.

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Pray to the Lord about what you have read. Thank Him for sending His dear Son so that people like you can be put right with God, and go to Heaven at the end of your life. Ask Him to forgive your sins and make you useful to serve Him in your life.

**“He is not here;
for He is risen,
as He said.”
Matthew 28 v 6**

