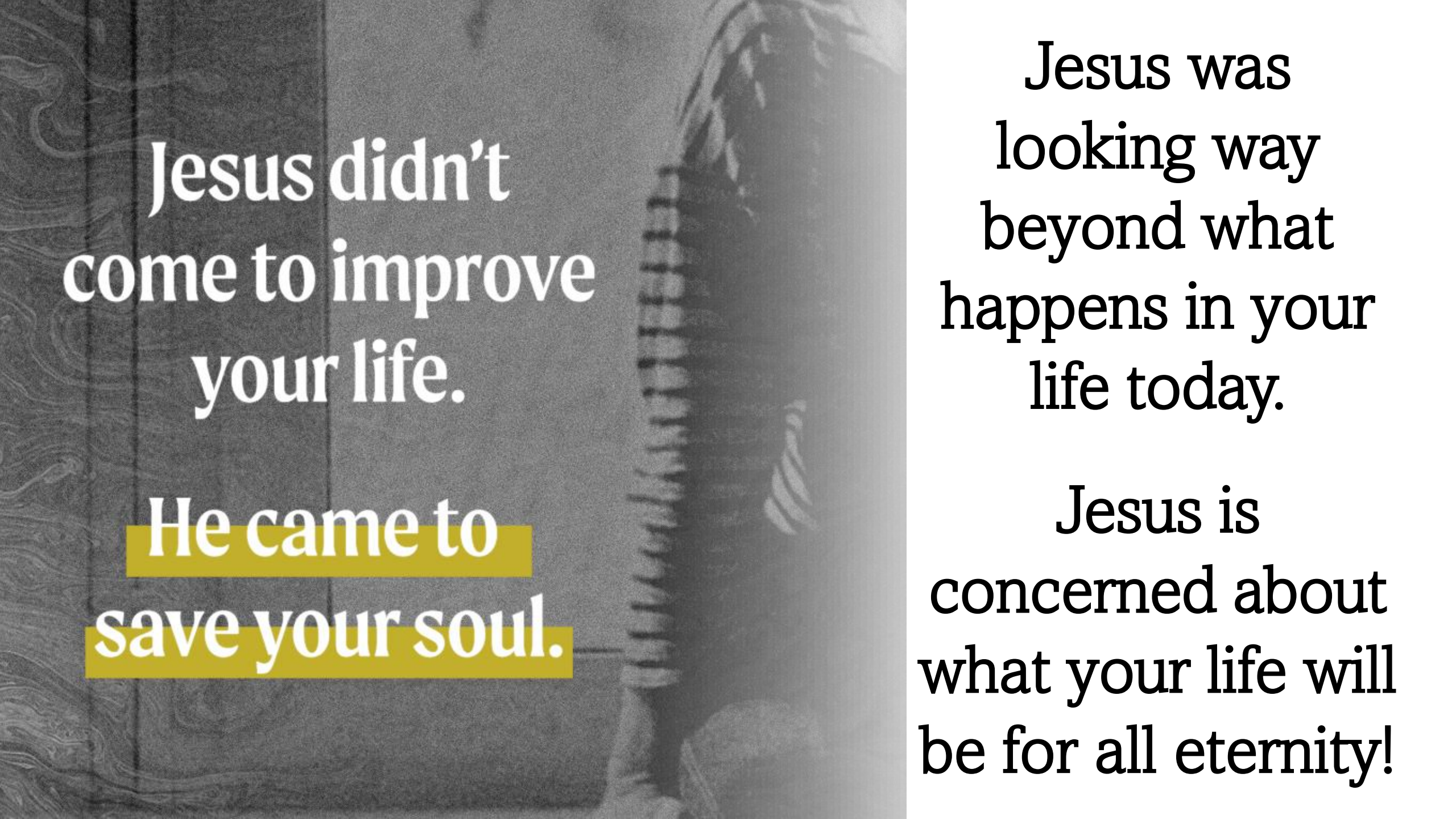


EASTER PEOPLE



Jesus didn't
come to improve
your life.

He came to
save your soul.

Jesus was
looking way
beyond what
happens in your
life today.

Jesus is
concerned about
what your life will
be for all eternity!

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.”



EASTER PEOPLE

❖ You can have hope!

in the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time,

And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the **full assurance of hope** until the end,

EASTER PEOPLE

“...we can define hope, in the New Testament sense, as full assurance, or strong confidence that God is going to do good to us in the future.”

John Piper

- You can have hope!



EASTER PEOPLE

❖ The foundation of your hope is your trust in God

Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober,
set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when
Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy **he has given us new birth into a living hope** through the **resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead,

And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for **we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering.** We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us.

We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy **he has given us new birth into a living hope** through the **resurrection of Jesus Christ** from the dead,

and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you,

who through faith are **shielded by God's power** until
the coming of the salvation that is ready to be
revealed in the last time.

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil.

He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Stand firm against him, and **be strong in your faith**. Remember that your family of believers all over the world is going through the same kind of suffering you are.

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your
stand against the devil's schemes.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

EASTER PEOPLE

Our hope is not dependent on what may be happening today.

Our hope is based on what will happen in the future when Christ returns!



EASTER PEOPLE

- You can have hope!
- The foundation of your hope is your trust in God

❖ Hope gives you strength in the middle of difficult circumstances

“Don’t let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.

There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? **When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.** And you know the way to where I am going."

“No, we don’t know, Lord,” Thomas said. “We have no idea where you are going, so how can we know the way?” Jesus told him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don’t be troubled or afraid.

I tell you the truth, you will weep and mourn over what is going to happen to me, but the world will rejoice. You will grieve, but your grief will suddenly turn to wonderful joy.

It will be like a woman suffering the pains of labor.
When her child is born, her anguish gives way to joy
because she has brought a new baby into the world.
So you have sorrow now, but I will see you again; then
you will rejoice, and **no one can rob you of that joy.**



EASTER PEOPLE

- You can have hope!
- The foundation of your hope is your trust in God
- Hope gives you strength in the middle of difficult circumstances

❖ Don't give up because today is hard. It's only Friday. Sunday's coming.



EASTER PEOPLE

- You can have hope!
- The foundation of your hope is your trust in God
- Hope gives you strength in the middle of difficult circumstances
- Don't give up because today is hard. It's only Friday. Sunday's coming.

❖ There is hope in Christ

We put our hope in the Lord. He is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. Let your unfailing love surround us, Lord, for our hope is in you alone.

I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

EASTER PEOPLE

- You can have hope!
- The foundation of your hope is your trust in God
- Hope gives you strength in the middle of difficult circumstances
- Don't give up because today is hard. It's only Friday. Sunday's coming
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