



Revealing the Mystery of History
"God let me understand the mystery of his plan through a revelation...In past generations this mystery was not known by people. But now God's Spirit has revealed his plan through his apostles and prophets."
Ephesians 3

Easter is Act Three in a Five Act Mystery

Act One: God _____.

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Genesis 1:1

Why did God even make a universe?

1. God made it all to _____.

"The heavens declare the glory of God." Psalm 19:1

"Everything comes from God. Everything exists by his power. And everything is intended for his glory." Romans 11:36

2. God made it all to _____.

The LORD is good to all; He has compassion on all he has made.
Psalm 145:9

3. God made it all to _____.

"In his goodness God chose to make us his own children by giving us his true word. And we, out of all creation, became his choice possession."
James 1:18

Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. 5 God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.
Ephesians 1:4-6

Act Two: Adam _____.

The effect of that disobedience?

1. Brought death to everyone since.

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. Romans 5:12

"We've all sinned and proved that we are utterly incapable of living the glorious lives that God wills for us." Romans 3:23

2. The world itself was broken by sin too.

Creation was subjected to frustration but not by its own choice. The one who subjected it to frustration did so in the hope that it would also be set free from slavery to decay in order to share the glorious freedom that the children of God will have. Romans 8:20,21

Act Three : Jesus came.

His coming and dying was an intentional act.

"No one can kill Me without My consent. I lay down My life voluntarily for I have the right and the power to lay it down when I want to and also the right and the power to take it again. For the Father has given Me this right." John 10:18

"Now My soul is troubled and distressed. And what shall I say? Father save Me from this hour of trial and agony? But it was for this very purpose that I have come to this hour." John 12:27

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21

Jesus, our Lord, was handed over to death because of our failures and was brought back to life so that we could receive God's approval.

Romans 4:25

The Bible says that when I open my life to God's Son, Jesus:

1. I get a _____.

2. I get an _____.

3. I get an _____.

Act Four God gives us _____.

"If anyone chooses to do God's will, he will find out whether or not my teaching comes from God." John 7:17

"... How long will you waver between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him!" 1 Kings 18:21

"Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, and between life and death." Deuteronomy 30:15

Act Five is Jesus _____.

"This is his plan: At the right time God will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth."

Ephesians 1:10

"Then God's home will be with his people. He will live with them, and they will be his own... He will wipe all tears from their eyes, and there will be no more death, suffering, crying, or pain. These things of the past will be gone forever." Revelation 21:3-4

You cannot invite somebody as big as God into your life and have it not change you.

Christ died for all so that those who would live would not continue to live for themselves. He died for them and was raised from the dead so that they would live for him." 2 Corinthians 5:15