

BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE

Beloved in the Lord,

The Lord Is Risen! He Is Risen Indeed! Hallelujah!!

“Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors...”

About two thousand and twenty years ago, the Roman world, representing the rest of the world, was thrown into confusion, anxiety, and uncertainty, over the life, work, and death of a man of Jewish extraction who was of a mysterious birth, claimed to be God, touched lives like no one else did, spoke the truth like none other, but was killed in the most brutal way. As we all know, the rest about this Man is the history around which the entire affairs of human race revolve. He is the Man, Jesus The Christ.

The events surrounding the death of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ put the apostles and the rest of the disciples into extreme confusion and anxiety. So confused that they even denied Him (Matt. 26:69-75), lost hope in His promises (Luke 24:13-21), and even doubted His resurrection (John 20:24-31). In the midst of all this anxiety, confusion and uncertainty, came that glorious Easter morning and The Lord Jesus rose from the dead allaying the anxiety, fear and confusion of the world and to His disciples assuring them of absolute victory over sin, the world and the devil and opening to them the gate to eternal life.

As was the case then, the entire world today is literally engulfed with great fear, confusion and anxiety over the rampage of the Corona virus. There's no other headline on the world's daily news but the pandemic. Both the strong and weak have been leveled. I believe that it is not coincidental that this is happening at this time as the world commemorates and celebrates the most significant event in human history, the Resurrection of the Lord of heaven and earth. Therefore I speak to the world that this pandemic won't be the end of us. Yes we are confused and overwhelmed, but the master of ocean and sky, for whose glory all things

were created, who died but rose again this glorious Easter morning, will bring this also to an end sooner than we expect.

To the body of Christ, we have seen for the first time in our generation, the largest interruption of our corporate worship life. In as much as this is not a funny experience, it doesn't in any way mean the closure of the Church. The ideology, philosophy and way of life that make us who we are cannot be shut down. Therefore let us use this time to lead the rest of the world to faith in the risen Lord as we show love to everyone, care for one another, being our brother's keepers by obediently following the guidelines put in place by the civil authorities. Let's intensify our prayer for those on the frontline of the fight against this pandemic and provide support to victims. Clinging on the love of God in Christ. ***“For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord”.***

Above all, let us continue to live expectant of the final Easter morning when our Lord Jesus shall return to take us to the place where no pandemic shall ever harass us.

And to Him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you faultless before His throne; to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ be all honor, glory and dominion now till the end of the age. Amen.

HAPPY. EASTER. TO. YOU. ALL

Your Brother and Bishop,

**†NATH, ABA NGWA NORTH.
*Easter 2020***