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# HAPPY EASTER

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It seems this year there is a glut of Easter eggs in the supermarkets, due to the restrictions in force. It seems some supermarkets have so many 'spare eggs' that they are using them as aisle markers to show shoppers the way round – creating barriers and one-way systems!

It is strange that we would allow Easter eggs to show us the way, but reject the directions of the one who truly came to show us the way at Easter?

Jesus' death on the cross was a dark moment. A moment of solitude and rejection. Nailed to a wooden cross, beaten, spat on, jeered and whipped, Jesus endured all of this because His Father had asked Him to. It is hard for us to fathom.

Why did God choose this route?

But this was not a spur of the moment thing. Jesus had been tasked with dying for mankind from the very beginning. The great I AM , beginning and the end – knew the beginning and the end!

Satan didn't and couldn't foresee the end, so Jesus dying was a bit of a triumphant shock and for a few brief hours, as Jesus breathed his last and surrendered His Spirit, I can imagine that Satan thought his this was his lucky day!

Imagine thinking all your plans and schemes had come to a most pleasant outcome, favourable in every way – only to have your hopes dashed as the realisation that the one hold you had over people – death – was about to be wrestled from your grasp! What a come down!

The realisation that he, Satan, had no more tricks to use, no weapons to fight with, no power over those who chose to find their way by surrendering to Jesus.

### Romans 5 : 8-11

... God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.

Who would have thought that Jesus' death would make a way to for us to be reconciled and our friendship restored?

I doubt that Satan did.

He has been defeated and laid low. We are out of his grasp when we cling to the truth that Jesus died for us. Our acceptance clothes us with the goodness of Jesus. He is good and we cannot be. We are hidden in Jesus – we belong to Him when we surrender to Him. The one thing that Satan clung to – telling us over and over – you are not good. You are a failure. You don't deserve God's love.... suddenly doesn't have the same hold over us. Well he is right of course..... except he didn't count on Jesus. We have been shown a new way ... and we celebrate it at Easter. Next time you find yourself weaving around the supermarket directed by Easter eggs....just remind yourself...Jesus came to give us a new way, a new way of living, a bright future and a sure hope of things to come.



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## PASTOR ANDY JACKSON



*Coach House Church*

leadership@coachhousechurch.org // 0161 432 5604

the coach house church, 222 wellington road north, stockport sk4 2qn