THE EASTER MESSAGE: 2025 - Kahu Billy Mitchell, April 20, 2025

"On a weekend like this, over 2,000 years ago, something cataclysmic happened! God's only Son was sacrificed and crucified for our sins! He who knew no sin in his life, gave up his life so that all mankind might have a chance to choose "life eternal" and not death!

"To be born again from the spirit of the world and into His Spirit!"

On Friday: the day of Jesus' crucifixion, the scripture says in the <u>Book of Matthew 27:45 NIV</u> *From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land.*

On the cross one of the thieves, who was being crucified with Jesus, said "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom!" Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise!" <u>Luke 23:42-43 NIV</u>

John 19:28-30 NIV ²⁸ Later, knowing that everything had now been finished and so that Scripture would be fulfilled, Jesus said, "I am thirsty." ²⁹ A jar of wine vinegar was there, so they soaked a sponge in it, put the sponge on a stalk of the hyssop plant, and lifted it to Jesus' lips. ³⁰ When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

The scripture says in the <u>Book of Matthew 27:51-52 NIV</u> ⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life.

"AH THE RESURRECTION!: SUNDAY MORNING!"

From 'Easter Song', songwriter Anne Herring, sung by Keith Green:

Hear the bells ringing, they're singing that you can be born again! Hear the bells ringing, they're singing Christ has risen from the dead! The angel up on the tombstone said He has risen, just as He said. Quickly now, go tell his disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead! Joy to the world He has risen, hallelujah, He's risen hallelujah, He's risen hallelujah, hallelujah!

Three elements of being born again: 1. A need in your heart! 2. We go to Jesus to fulfill that need!

3. We make Jesus the Lord of our lives!

We try more and more and more to live a life born in the Spirit!

Questions: How many of you are sure that you are born again? How many of you are not so sure? How many of you are not born again and want to join Jesus ohana?

Let's all say this simple prayer together; "It is finished, we are born again!"

HE IS RISEN HALLELUJAH! AMENE!