



Rejoice in HIM!

Hope International Missions



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Bringing News of Richard & Judy Grout & Vyborg, Russia, since 1993

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CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Dear Friends and Loved Ones,

“FEAR NOT . . . For He is risen as He said!” These words stand at the pinnacle point of the gospel proclamation. The apostles made the resurrection victory of Jesus the leading point of their preaching. The announcement that Christ conquered death is the central point of the gospel message the apostles proclaimed in the book of Acts. They believed in Jesus’ resurrection so firmly that they were willing to give their lives for that belief.

The Apostle Paul makes the resurrection the basis for his teachings on how we should live the Christian life.

Perhaps the greatest significance of the resurrection is found in the words, “*as He said.*” The resurrection is the highest proof of the validity of both the Old and New Testaments. God always keeps His word. As H. Robb French wrote many years ago, “God’s truth will endure, our foundation is sure, there’s no need for a fear or care.” God’s Word is authenticated in human history in such miraculous ways that everyone who studies the Scriptures with an open mind comes to the conclusion God has been in control of human history and has changed its course many times. And the resurrection brought about the greatest change of all. Because of Jesus’ victory over death and hell, we can be very sure He will help us overcome all our fears as well.



In the photo at left, Orthodox believers bring cakes to be blessed at the end of their long fast before Easter. The letters X.B. (as all Russians know) stand for “Christ is Risen.”



Oil Painting by Viktor Kotenko

Pastor Oleg is holding a cross-stitch picture his wife, Irina, made—350,000 cross stitches! What is really remarkable is both Oleg and Irina are former drug addicts who have graduated from the rehabilitation program and have gone on to pastor a growing church. Their lives are a vibrant, living testimony to the power of God’s Amazing Grace!



Celebrating Easter at the Church on the Rock. This church was blessed with several victories in court cases this year aimed at seizing their property!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for the leaders of our churches in the Vyborg region: Pastors Valera, Aleksey F., Aleksey G., Aleksey H., Oleg, and Dima.
- Pray for Aleksander and Tanya Sasha, and their girls, Luba and Margarita, (pictured right) in the Christian Center.
- Remember the nearly thirty people involved in answering mail from prisoners all across Russia.



Wishing you all a most blessed Easter!
All because of HIS Amazing Love,
Richard & Judy Grout



A meeting of the mailing ministries team

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Did anyone notice? This is almost the same letter we sent two Easters ago. Despite many problems, the ministries are continuing!