

The Easter Time Machine

*How would you like to take a trip back
– way back – into time?*

*We can use our virtual **Time Machine***

to take us there. So just step inside.

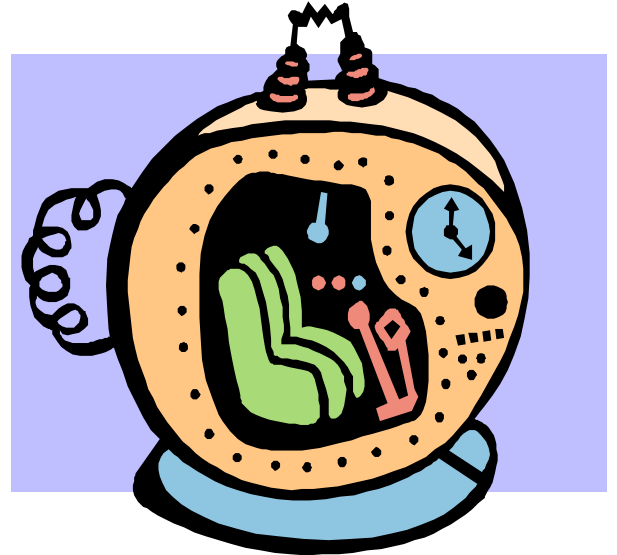
*Let's set the date dial for, say, a couple of thousand years ago. The place: **Jerusalem**. Ready, set, and we're off!*

We're spinning. The clock is winding backward...

1500 A.D.... 1000 A.D.... 50 A.D....

*Just a *little* bit further... **THUD!** OK, we've landed.*

Let's open the hatch and step out into the distant past...



Hey, where are all the cars? Where are the cell phones? Who turned out the lights? Oh! Those things haven't been invented yet. It's pretty quiet here – no TV or radio, and no Internet. I wonder what people do for fun? Listen, there's some noise over there. Sounds like a party. They must be having fun. Let's go check it out...

*There's a group of people all chattering and excited about something. What are they saying? Something about a man. **A man who died but seems to have escaped from his burial tomb.** Nonsense! Dead people don't walk away from their graves. What's that? They say his name is **Jesus** and he was killed on a **cross** a few days ago on a nearby hill.*



*Everyone saw it – it was really big news here – and one of the men had taken Jesus' dead body and placed it in a tomb (which was in a sort of cave). Then they rolled a super-heavy boulder in front to **seal off the opening** to the tomb.*

*Everyone thought that was the end of this man called Jesus. **Now it seems he's actually come back to life!** They say he's walking and talking – even eating with people. Hundreds of people have seen him! ...But how could that be?*

Listen, there's more. This fellow Jesus claimed he was the **Son of God**, and before he was crucified he even predicted that he would **rise from the dead** after 3 days. But people didn't really take him seriously. Until now. It seems that **Jesus was telling the truth!** Now he's back, and people are saying he can even walk through walls and closed doors.

He goes anywhere he wants, like magic!



I wonder if we can go look for Jesus, the Son of God.
He must be pretty special.

But if Jesus is so famous, maybe He won't have time for us.
Perhaps He's too busy with more important people.
Maybe we should just forget about it.

Oh, what's that... They're saying that **Jesus loves ordinary people**. He goes out of His way to visit with **poor people, sick people, children, and anyone** who wants to be with Him. He loves to chat and share stories with everybody. It seems **He never runs out of time**. So what are we waiting for? **Let's go find Jesus!** Isn't it great that we had this time machine to bring us to Him?

Hey, wait a second. *The truth is – we don't need a time machine to find Jesus.* His **Holy Spirit** is always right here, right now! A few weeks after Jesus rose from the dead, God called Him home to heaven, and then God sent His Holy Spirit to earth, so that no matter what year you live in, Jesus' Spirit is always there. **He lives yesterday, today, and forever.**



Jesus died as a perfect payment for all of our wrongdoings. Then God miraculously raised His body from the dead – and Jesus left the tomb forever, so He could save us too.

That was the first **Easter**. It's what Easter is *really* about.

Now, for the best part... One day in the future all those who have put their faith in Jesus Christ as their Saviour will see Him **face to face**. We don't know exactly when, but we can be sure we will see Him. **What an adventure that will be, when Jesus gives us a ride to the wonderful home He has prepared – and we won't need a time machine.** But we need to be ready to hop on board when the time comes. We do that by asking Jesus to make us part of His special family right now.



*Thank you, Lord Jesus, for dying for my wrongdoings.
And thank you for offering me a beautiful home with you, and for promising to come back for me one day. I want you to be my Saviour and to accept me as a member of God's special family. Thank you, Amen.*

