



# *New Life Riders*

*Motorcyclists Serving God and Community*

[www.newliferiders.com](http://www.newliferiders.com)

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*Dear Friends,*

*The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Motorcycle EXPO here in Indianapolis, is now a memory. It was great seeing so many good friends. One sure way to chase the winter doldrums is to get out with like-minded people. Seeing all those must have, can't live without new products was also enjoyable. Watching the kids at the Tiny Tots Test Track really warmed the heart. The big grins on their faces were only surpassed by the smiles of the ABATE members who were manning the track and assisting the kids. It was a pleasure to watch the next generation who will share our love of motorcycling! What a memorable ride for those kids!*

*I'm sure we all have been on rides we enjoy remembering. Spectacular hills and valleys, twists and turns that lead to gorgeous scenic vistas. How we love to reflect and reminisce, especially during early spring when several inches of snow, still glistening on the ground, may prevent our taking to the roads on two, or possibly three wheels, as might be the case.*

*Jesus had a memorable ride, too. The narrative appears in all four Gospels. As Jesus enters Jerusalem, the city is full of raucous excitement. Passover was in full swing. Jewish people from all over the then known world had come to make their offerings at the Temple. The place was full of out-of-towners. It was like a gigantic international rally.*

*When we read about Jesus "ride" into Jerusalem on that first Palm Sunday, we are startled by His bravery. He is a man with a price on His head, yet he rides purposefully and deliberately into the city knowing that every eye was fixed upon Him, realizing that His very entrance will provoke the religious leaders to take action against Him. The authorities had given instructions that anyone knowing Jesus' whereabouts should inform them so He could be arrested. In other accounts of Jesus' "memorable ride" the words of Zechariah, a prophet who lived roughly 500 years before Jesus, are quoted. Zechariah had spoken of Zion's King coming on a donkey's colt.*

*In the ancient world during wartime, a king would arrive on a spirited horse. If the king were coming in peace, he rode a donkey. By His dramatic actions, Jesus showed He was coming in love and peace, not as the conquering hero whom the mob expected.*

*As bikers, we have some lessons to learn from Jesus in this matter. We also should ride into town in such a way that people will see we have an attitude of peace. Sometimes our very appearance, which seems perfectly normal to us – our protective clothing, along with the "Hollywood Rebel Image" may have a frightening effect on the non-motorcycling public.*

*The Passover Pilgrims would normally have been singing Psalms 113-118 as they entered the city. It was a hymn used during the great religious festivals. The crowd joins Jesus' followers in praising Him by shouting their joyful hosannas. Psalm 118:25&26 says, "Hosanna, Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord." Hosanna is a word that praises God and asks for help at the same time. It is a transliteration of a Hebrew word meaning "Save Now"*

*Hosanna can be our watchword, it can be our cry for help. We can say or sing our Hosannas with a powerful perspective. The Lord answered the hosannas of those pilgrims processing into Jerusalem to a greater extent than they ever expected. They were looking for a King who would throw the Roman oppressor out of the Holy city, release them from the terrible burden of taxes, feed them, provide for and protect them, and give them national dignity once again.*

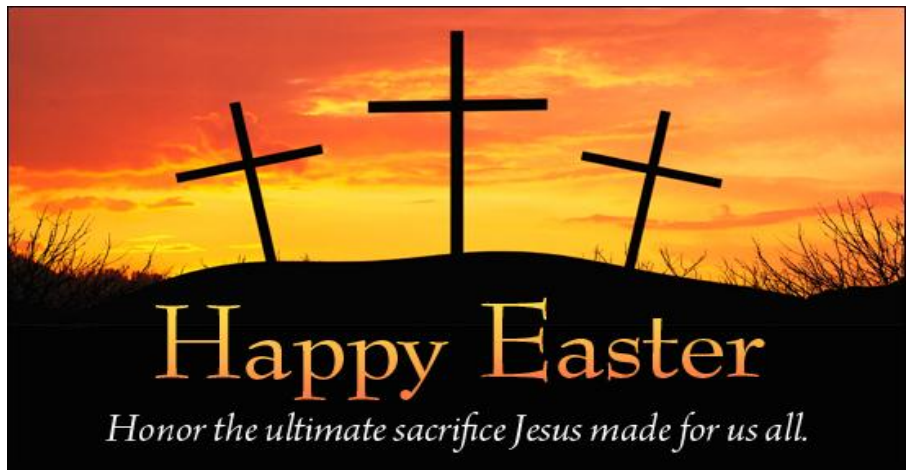
*As the week wore on the mood of the crowd changed. Why wasn't Jesus doing something? Sure, He continued to teach in the Temple, but He retreated with His Disciples to the home of friends in the burbs each evening. When was He going to take control? Why wasn't He meeting with political types who could get things done?*

*The rest is history. The crowds turned on Him and screamed for His crucifixion less than a week after they celebrated His triumphal ride into the city. Jesus was not a helpless victim of all that happened to him during the last week of His ministry; as Triune God, He was calling the shots. The bottom line: He rode into Jerusalem to die on the cross so we might be set free from sin and guilt and be reconciled to God; to enable us to come into a right relationship with God. Christianity is not a religion; it's a relationship! We can still shout our hosannas when Palm Sunday fades into Blue Monday and when we hit mid-week and all our plans splinter. We can still sing our hosannas because the cross provided for the atonement for the world, because there is an empty tomb, and a living Lord who can fill our emptiness.*

*Now we can say Hosanna, "Help Lord" knowing lasting help is on the way. Not the quick fix of political, financial and material help those pilgrims were looking for on that first Palm Sunday. Remember: Help is only a Hosanna away!*

*Friends, Easter is early this year! When we bikers plan trips to Daytona, Sturgis or Americade, we make it a point to get our reservations in early! Get ready for the most important "ride" of your life! If you have not invited Jesus into your heart and life, this would be a perfect time to do it.*

*We update the website [www.newliferiders.com](http://www.newliferiders.com) often. Please keep checking it for biking events and activities that you can attend and let your light shine for Jesus. Remember, if because of time or distance, you are unable to attend the listed activities, and you know of one closer to your home, go and share the love of Jesus. Be a blessing! Don't miss any opportunity to make an impact on the world. May you be blessed as you ride, work and for Him.*



*The New Life Riders ride with the purpose of serving God and the Community. You don't have to join or belong to any particular organization to be part of our group. Please feel especially invited to come out and fellowship with us.*

*Take a night off from dinner responsibilities and join us for good food and great fellowship at our next meeting on **Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 PM at Bob Evans Restaurant, 25 South High School Road, located just off Route 465 at the corner of High School Road and U.S. 36, Indianapolis. We want you and your family to know that everyone is welcome.*

*As always, I look forward to seeing you down the road!*

*God bless  
Riding with Jesus,  
Bob Dillon*

***"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)***