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## The Great Lent Contest

St Rebekah church in Orlando presents

The spiritual Great Lent contest

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The Epistle to the Romans, it was written by St. Paul during his third trip to Corinth and it was delivered by Phoebe the servant of the church in Cenchrea (Romans 16:1). This epistle was called the cathedral of the Christian faith because it carries the elements of the Christian faith. In this epistle St Paul wrote about the need of salvation for the Jews and the gentiles, he explained to the Jews the son ship of Abraham and this son ship or Mosaic law are not the way for salvation.

Please write your name and phone number

Name:.....

Phone number:.....

- 1- There was a dispute between the Jews of the early church and the gentiles, therefore, St Paul prohibited the following actions:
  - a. The literality in applying Moses law
  - b. He fought the movement of Judaism who brought back the believers to the literality
  - c. He asked the Jews who became Christians to ensure that the gentiles become Jews first by circumcision to be accepted in the faith
  
- 2- St Paul spoke in this epistle about the person's work before becoming Christian and he considered these works:
  - a. They are the reason for the salvation and this salvation is a result for the self-righteousness
  - b. The acts before believing in Jesus Christ are useless for the salvation because the inside is impure ( Romans 17: 9)
  - c. He focused on the faith that works through love when the believer gets united with Christ in baptism, crucifixion and resurrection with him

- 3-** For all have sinned... Romans 3: 23-24 , the death entered the world through sin... then Christ saved us by his crucifixion and his crucifixion gave us the eternal life through 2 stages:
- a.** The first resurrection from the death of sin (John 5: 25)
  - b.** The second resurrection which is the second coming for Jesus Christ in the judgment day
  - c.** We will live with Jesus Christ on earth during the millennial reign
- 4-** St Paul spoke about the atonement redemption- the meaning of the redemption that Christ died for us. We were reconciled with God through his Son's death (Roman 5:10)... What are the prophecies that spoke about this redemption in the old testament :
- a.** "I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. (Hosea 13:14)
  - b.** None of them can by any means redeem his brother... (Psalms 49: 7-10)
  - c.** "Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God. (Isaiah 44:6)
- 5-** St Paul says in Galatians 3:13 that Christ on the cross became a curse for us, what does he mean?
- a.** That the Son became cursed by God to complete the redemption
  - b.** He became cursed because of the cross (As it is said in the scriptures "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree")
  - c.** He carried the Wreath of thorns and the thorns are the result of the curse ( Genesis 3:18)
- 6-** "And declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead" (Romans 1:4) That explains who resurrected Christ from the dead and why
- a.** Christ resurrected by His divinity
  - b.** The reason of Christ's resurrection is his victory over the sin, He was without a sin and the sin brings death therefore He conquered the death because of His righteousness.
  - c.** The righteous soul is not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit didn't raise Christ from the dead because his divinity is united with his humanity and who raised him is his divinity.

- 7-** “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world and death through sin... (Romans 5:12) What are the consequences of the sin?
- a.** Death
  - b.** The slavery of the corruption
  - c.** For the creation was subjected to futility... (Romans 8:20)
- 8-** “For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son... we shall be saved by His life. “(Romans 5:10) What is he referring to?
- a.** The redemption of the Son through the cross
  - b.** Through the baptism we rise with Christ and we become united with him and he gives us life and his son ship
  - c.** Through Baptism we die with Christ and we apply Moses law but we obtain the forgiveness of our sins because of Christ redemption
- 9-** “That you present your bodies a living sacrifice... “(Romans 12:1) What does it mean to present our bodies as sacrifice?
- a.** We should not be dragged to our lusts because there is no unity between the light and the darkness.
  - b.** “And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. (Galatians 5:24)
  - c.** We consider ourselves dead from the sin
- 10-** “ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup> knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him,... (Romans 6: 5-19) What is he referring to?
- a.** That the life we obtain is the life of Christ who resurrected from the dead
  - b.** That the life we obtain is the eternal life
  - c.** This is the life we obtain right after the baptism... (Romans 6:4)
- 11-** “Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. “(Romans 12: 9) what type of love St Paul is referring to?
- a.** The love without hypocrisy and rejecting the evil
  - b.** The love without anything in returns

- c. The love which is the base that connects the church members together ( John 3:14)

**12-** And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man's foundation (**Romans 15: 20**) what does this verse mean?

- a. None of the apostles established this church (The church in Rome) until the time of this epistle
- b. That St Paul went indeed to Rome but as a captive and he preached there through his time in prison (Acts 28:13-15)
- c. Who preached in Rome is St Peter not St Paul as per the Catholic Church

**13-** "For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law" (Romans 2:12) what is he trying to tell us?

- a. When there is a law the sin becomes a transgression
- b. The sin is a killer and is the reason for death even without the law
- c. Sodom and Gomorrah perished and there was no law

**14-** "And has made us kings and priests" (Revelation 1:6) "that you present your bodies a living sacrifice" (Romans 12: 1) It means...

- a. There is a private priesthood and a general priesthood
- b. The private priesthood is the Sacrament of priesthood
- c. The general priesthood is that all the believers offer their bodies as living sacrifice

**15-** "Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God." (Romans 7:4) What does he mean by "you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another"

- a. The law was applied by death and who died is the old inner man and through death he was freed from the law
- b. After our unity with Christ through baptism there is no law of life and death but whether we are abiding in Christ or not
- c. The law never dies because it's God's law but the old man is the one who died through baptism

- 16-** “For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh” (Romans 8:3) What is St Paul referring to?
- The law is unable to help us live in righteousness
  - Jesus Christ carried all of our sins in his body and died to condemn the sin
  - The law didn’t have the authority to judge the sin but he used all the punishments like stoning and separation from the people
- 17-** “Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.” (Romans 8:7) What does it mean by “The carnal mind”?
- The Flesh is not God’s enemy because when God created the flesh he saw it very good
  - The provocation of the old man’s desires
  - The body without the soul cannot submit to God and his commandments
- 18-** “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:2) What does St Paul ask us to do?
- Not to imitate the world
  - We are the children of God we should resemble him in his love, holiness and humility
  - Through baptism we become spiritual so we can renew our minds and turn it into spiritual minds
- 19-** St Paul spoke to the Romans about the justification, he explained that the law is unable to justify the Jews and the conscience is unable to justify the gentiles... what is the meaning of justification?
- Christ gives us his life so we can live and obtain Christ justification
  - In Christ we renew our nature and become justified
  - Christ gave us the victory over the sin and to become just, that means we are saved through his life (Romans 5)
- 20-** Our church celebrates 3 major feast during the holy week
- Palm Sunday and Resurrection Sunday they are 2 major feasts
  - Holy Thursday is a minor feast

c. The cross feast

**21-** The liturgy of Holy Thursday of Pascha we do not pray the reconciliation prayer. Why?

- a. The reconciliation is not done unless there is a bloodshed, the blood of Christ through the cross
- b. the veil of the temple was not torn yet
- c. The redemption was done through the cross and the reconciliation with God the father.

**22-** This is the power, the glory, the blessings and the majesty Emmanuel our God and King... This hymn was mentioned in the bible several times

- a. You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they <sup>[h]</sup>exist and were created.” (Revelation 4:11)
- b. Whom St Paul talked about that he is the power of God (1 Corinthians 1:24)
- c. When the lord was in Gethsemane, he prayed and cried, an angel appeared to him to strengthen him (Luke 22)

**23-** During the holy Pascha week we light 3 candles during prayers, which resembles ...

- a. The prophecies readings
- b. The psalms readings
- c. The Gospel reading

**24-** The Jews celebrate 7 major feasts, the Passover, the first fruits and the Pentecost... all these feasts resemble the work of Christ on earth until the day of the Pentecost

- a. The Passover resemble the cross
- b. The First fruits resemble the resurrection
- c. The Pentecost resembles the holy spirit on the 50<sup>th</sup> day

**25-** The church doesn't pray the holy liturgy on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the holy week, because .....

- a. Lord Jesus didn't establish the sacrament of the Eucharist
- b. Our lord is our sacrifice but he hadn't crucified himself yet
- c. The sacrifice of the liturgy is linked to the sacrifice of the cross

**26-** Why does our church consider the holy Thursday one of the minor feasts although it's for our salvation

- a. The holy Thursday is considered the beginning of the new covenant through His Holy blood
- b. Our Lord when He gave His body and blood to His disciples it was linked to the event of the cross and the resurrection and it was not separated
- c. We don't pray the reconciliation prayer on the Holy Thursday liturgy

**27-** Our church celebrates Palm Sunday as one of the major feasts... therefore we find the events of this day are prove of the divinity of Jesus Christ, these events are

- a. The fulfillment of the prophecies on that day (Zachariah 9:9)
- b. The Lord when he said "My house shall be called a house of prayer," (Matthew 21:13) and "My kingdom is not of this world." (John 18:36)
- c. The Lord spoke about what will happen to Jerusalem (Luke 19: 42-47)

**28-** On Monday from the Holy Pascha week we remember the purification of the temple for the second time (Matthew 21:12) Our Lord drove out the Merchants for 2 times, the first time was mentioned in

- a. John 2:14-17
- b. Luke 21: 37-38
- c. Mark 11:11-15

**29-** During the Holy Pascha week our Lord Jesus cried 3 times and they are:

- a. The end of the lent on Friday when He said: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her..." (Matthew 23:37-38)
- b. When our Lord cried on Lazarus Saturday (John 11:36)
- c. When our Lord cried on Holy Thursday at the Garden of Gethsemane

**30-** We read during the Holy Pascha week some of the prophecies from the Old Testament, for example the prophecy that Jesus will be sold for 30 silver coins, and it was fulfilled in Matthew 26:15... This prophecy was in the Old testament in

- a. Zachariah 11:12-13
- b. Psalms 109: 7-8
- c. Zachariah 11: 13

**31-** He who sits upon the Cherubim, Today appeared in Jerusalem, Riding on a colt with great glory, Surrounded by ranks of angels" Where in the Bible we can find this verse?

- a. "And He rode upon a cherub, and flew" (Psalms 18:10)
- b. "Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey" (Zachariah 9:9)

- c. Hosanna O Son of David, (Psalms 118)

**32-** The events of Monday of the Holy Pascha week are all about:

- a. When our Lord passed by the dry fig tree
- b. The purification of the temple
- c. The woman who poured the oil

**33-** On Tuesday of the Holy Pascha week at the eleventh hour we add this part “ My good Savior” to the hymn “Thine is the power, the glory” because...

- a. Our Lord mentioned in this hour the time of his crucifixion in “You know that after two days is the Passover and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.” (Matthew 26:2)
- b. The salvation was completed when he said” See! Your house is left to you desolate” (Luke 13:36)
- c. “For I say to you, you shall see Me no more till you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!’ ” (Matthew 23: 38-39)

**34-** On Tuesday of the Holy Pascha week, our Lord spoke about these events...

- a. The Parable of the 10 virgins and the destroy of the temple
- b. The second coming, the judgment day and how to be ready for it
- c. His response to the Jews about giving taxes to Creaser

**35-** The readings on Tuesday of the holy Pascha week are the Parables from the Gospel of St Matthew

- a. The Parable of the two sons (Matthew 21:28-32)
- b. The Parable of the Wicked Vinedressers (Matthew 21:33-46)
- c. The Parable of the Wedding Feast (Matthew 22: 1-14)

**36-** On Wednesday of the Holy Pascha week we have these events ...

- a. The pouring of the fragrant oil on the head of Lord Jesus (Matthew 6:6-13)
- b. The betrayal of Judas to our Lord and his agreement with the Jews to pay him for the betrayal (Matthew 16:4)
- c. When Mary (Lazarus’ sister) poured and the fragrant oil over the feet of our Lord and wiped it with her hair (John 12: 1-9)

**37-** The liturgy of the Covenant Thursday is the shortest liturgy of the whole year, it doesn’t include ...

- a. We don’t pray the commemoration of the Saints because Paradise was not opened yet

- b. We don't pray the reconciliation prayer because the reconciliation (through the cross) was not completed yet
  - c. We don't read the Catholic epistles because in it we read about the 10 days between the ascension and the Pentecost
- 38- On Thursday of the holy Pascha week we find our Lord established the sacrament of the Eucharist, this day was full of events for example
  - a. The last supper and washing feet
  - b. The prayer of Christ and his last intercession to God the Father
  - c. His farewell talks (Matthew 26:31-35) & (Mark 14:27-31) & (Luke 22: 31-38)
- 39- "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." (Matthew 26:29)
  - a. The Father and the Son are one in will because the Divine will united with the human will when His Divinity united with His humanity
  - b. The Father's will and the Son's will are the same
  - c. The Son was submitted to the cross with pleasure to obey the Father and at the same time this is what He wanted
- 40- The Jews responded to Pilates and told him according to the law that Lord Jesus should die because He says that He is the Son of God, why did the Jews do that?
  - a. To prove that their judgment on Jesus is a Godly judgment and Pilate has to apply it
  - b. Because they refused to argue with Pilate to release our Lord Jesus
  - c. They forced Pilate to apply the civil law to kill our Lord because they accused Him for hating Caesar and this is infidelity
- 41- We say in the creed "and He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate" the trial before Pilate was mentioned in ...
  - a. John 18: 33-37
  - b. John 19: 8-11
  - c. When Jesus Christ said that His kingdom is not from this world
- 42- "Then, behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom; and the earth quaked, and the rocks were split" (Matthew 27:51) What are evidence for that
  - a. It resembles the end of the Jewish priesthood... See! Your house is left to you desolate (Matthew 23:38)
  - b. The torn of the veil shows the work of God for the salvation, through his death the heaven's doors were opened so we can enter the Holy of Holies and be united with Him

- c. It resembles the death of Christ on the cross, the Veil is a symbol of the body of Christ (Hebrews 10:19) & (Hebrews 9:24)
- 43-** “I have told you that I am *He*. Therefore, if you seek Me, let these go their way,” Why did Jesus left the disciples at the Garden of Gethsemane?
- a. So no one gets in trouble
  - b. John the beloved followed Him to the state house
  - c. We see that our Lord ordered them with authority not weakness to protect his disciples
- 44-** Jesus Christ was judged according to the Jews and before Pilate as a civilian ... What did the Jews accused him for?
- a. The accused Him for saying that he is the Son of God and this is against their law
  - b. The accused Him saying that he is looking for the kingdom and against Caesar
  - c. The accused Him saying That he encourage people not to pay taxes to Caesar and He is a king
- 45-** All the major feasts have vespers raising of incense but don't have vespers raising of incense for the resurrection feast because...
- a. The Lord Jesus resurrected on Sunday morning therefore we start directly with the first hour not with vespers
  - b. The day of resurrection doesn't have an evening, because there is always light and life and it doesn't have evening
  - c. We don't pray the psalms except the psalm of the liturgy and the raising of incense
- 46-** There are prophecies in the Old testament about the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, these prophecies are :
- a. For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to <sup>[f]</sup>see corruption (Psalms 16:10)
  - b. After two days He will revive us; on the third day He will raise us up, that we may live in His sight. (Hosea 6:2)
  - c. “I will ransom them from the <sup>[i]</sup>power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. O Death, I will be your plagues! O Grave, I will be your destruction! Pity is hidden from My eyes.” (Hosea 13:14)
- 47-** On the day before the resurrection feast, the priests and the deacons they go around with the resurrection Icon, which resembles...
- a. The appearance of our Lord Jesus to his disciples and the women after His resurrection on the same day

- b. The church is announcing joyfully the resurrection of our Lord and it's referring to our Lord saying: "I'll see you and you hear will rejoice and no one will take your joy from you"
- c. The church goes around with the resurrection Icon starting on the 50 days until the ascension which resembles the appearances of our Lord to his disciples after resurrection

**48-** We say in the creed "He rose from the dead, ascended into the heaven and He sits at the right hand of his father" What does "He sits at the right hand of His Father" mean?

- a. The Glory and power
- b. Our Lord Jesus with his body He has the image of glory as his father that He had from His divinity
- c. When we say He sat at the right of His Fathers it's the opposite of He emptied Himself

**49-** The 4 Gospels agreed that the women found out about the resurrection before the disciples, but St Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:5-9 showed that our Lord Jesus appeared to St Peter then the 12 disciples and up to 500 until he appeared to St Paul... Is there a discrepancy between St Paul's epistle and the 4 Gospels about the resurrection witnesses?

- a. St Paul mentioned St Peter first then the other disciples as per the Jewish traditions
- b. This what he meant to ensure the resurrection supported with witnesses
- c. As per the Jewish tradition they depend on the witnesses of the men and the law specify that it should be more than one witness (Numbers 35:30)

**50-** The disciples of Emmaus when they met the Lord Jesus, He blessed and broke the bread and they recognized Him then He disappeared (Luke 24:30-31). What is the symbol for this meeting in the liturgy?

- a. When the priest covers the chalice after he uncovers it, that resembles the appearance of our Lord to Emmaus disciples and His disappearance
- b. When the priest uncovers the tray that carries the Holy Body and we take the handkerchief and the priest signs himself it resembles the appearance of our Lord Jesus to Mary Magdalene for the first time when she recognized him and the second time she didn't recognize him
- c. When the priest moves the chalice as the sign of the cross resembles that our Lord Jesus shed His blood on the cross to forgive us our sins (1 John 2:2)