

HOURLY OF POWER OF 23.03.2008

GOOD MORNING/OPENING SENTENCE/INVOCATION

RAS: Happy Easter! He is risen. He is risen. He is risen! This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM - "Festival Alleluias"

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, Christ is risen, alleluia victorious over death. Victorious, victorious, victorious, victorious. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ is risen, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Christ is risen. Alleluia, Christ is risen, Christ is risen. Alleluia!

PRAYER - RAS

RAS: Oh Lord, we thank You for this glorious hour, this moment where we are connected with You in spirit. And so on Easter morning, we recognize that You are Lord of our lives today. We commit ourselves wholly and completely to You and to Your will. And so into Your hands we commit our spirit, and as You have risen from the grave to bring life, so allow Your life to fill our hearts with Your love. We love You Lord, Amen.

SOLO – DANIEL RODRIGUEZ - "City of God"

Awake from your slumber, arise from your sleep! A new day is dawning for all those who weep. The people in darkness have seen a great light. The Lord of our longing has conquered the night. Let us build a city of God. Let our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our Light and our Love has turned the night into day.

We are sons of the morning; we are daughters of day. The One Who has loved us has brightened our way. The God of all kindness has called us to be a light to His people, let all hearts be free. Let us build a city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our Light and our Love has turned the night into day.

O city of gladness now lift up your voice! Proclaim the glad tidings that all may rejoice! Rejoice! Let us build a city of God. May our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our Light and our Love has turned the night into day. For the Lord, our Light and our Love has turned the night into day. For the Lord, our Light and our Love has turned the night into day, the night into day, the night to day!

SCRIPTURE – MATTHEW 28 - RAS

RAS: Hear the account of Easter morning, as it is recorded in the New Testament. After the Sabbath at dawn, on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. The angel said to the women, do not be afraid for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen just as He said. Come see the place where He lay. Now, go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead and is going ahead of them into Galilee. There you will see Him. Now I've told you this. So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy and ran to tell His disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them.

Greetings, He said. In awe, they came to Him, clasped His feet and worshipped Him.

LARRY GATLIN INTRODUCES MUSICAL PIECE

LARRY: My brother Steve, brother Rudy and I are very glad and happy and grateful to be with you wonderful people this morning, and we're especially thankful for the amazing grace of God. Let's do it, boys.

TRIO – THE GATLIN BROTHERS - "Amazing Grace"

Amazing grace how sweet the sound that saved a soul like me. I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun. We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun.

READING – CHARLTON HESTON - "One Solitary Life"

CHARLTON: Now the day before the Sabbath, a man named Joseph of Aramathea, a good man and righteous, went in boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. And Pilate gave him leave. So Joseph took Him down from the cross and wrapped Him in fine linen and laid Him in His own new tomb, which was hewn out of a rock. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus and the Mary from Galilee beheld how His body was laid there. Then Joseph rolled a great stone over the door of the tomb and they went and rested on the Sabbath day, according to the commandments. Now as it began to dawn on the first day of the week, they came to the sepulcher at the rising of the sun and they said among themselves who shall rolleth away the stone from the door? But when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away! And entering into the tomb, they saw an angel sitting on the right side. His appearance was as lightening and his garment white as snow. And he said to them, why seek ye the living among the dead? Jesus, the Nazarene who was crucified is risen, He is not here. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

So go your way, tell His disciples that He goeth before you. But ye shall see Him as He told. Then Peter ran and looked, wondering at what was come to pass, for they had not known that He must rise again. And they returned to Jerusalem rejoicing, the Lord is risen! When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week Jesus came where the disciples were and stood among them and said peace by unto you. And to Simon Peter He said, Simon, son of John lovest thou Me? And Simon Peter said, Ye Lord thou knowest that I love Thee. And Jesus said to Him, tend my sheep and to all He said as the Father has sent me, even so I send you. Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation.

Now of the things, which Jesus did, if they should be written every one, I suppose the world itself could not contain the books, which would be written.

SOLO – DEVON GUTHRIE - "I've Just Seen Jesus"

We knew He was dead, it is finished He said. We had watched as His life ebbed away. Then we all stood around till the guards took Him down. Joseph begged for His body that day. It was late afternoon when we got the tomb. Wrapped His body

and sealed up the grave. So I know how you feel, His death was so real, but please listen and hear what I say.

I've just seen Jesus. I tell you He's alive. I've just seen Jesus our precious Lord alive. And I knew He really saw me too. As if till now I've never lived. All that I'd done before won't matter anymore. I've just seen Jesus and I'll never be the same again!

It was His voice I first heard, those kind gentle words asking what was my reason for tears. And I sobbed in despair; my Lord is not there. He said child it is I, I am here.

I've just seen Jesus. I tell you He's alive. I've just seen Jesus my precious Lord alive. And I knew He really saw me too. As if till now I've never lived. All that I'd done before won't matter anymore. I've just seen Jesus, I've just seen Jesus, all I've ever done before won't matter anymore, I've just seen Jesus and I'll never be the same again. I've just seen Jesus!

ROGER WILLIAMS INTRODUCES PIANO PIECE

ROGER: Good morning. You know something? It's sure good to be home, and a happy Easter to you. It really is. But the dawn of that first Easter was anything but happy for the few remaining followers of that man they called the Messiah. Just three days before, they'd seen all their dreams; all their hopes vanish at the foot of the cross. That plus the fact that their Savior, their Savior had been labeled as a complete fraud, and executed like a common criminal. It was not a good day. But they came to the tomb, they came to honor their friend, their Savior, that man, that man they lovingly called Jesus. But it turned into a beautiful day, so calm, so peaceful.

PIANO SOLO – ROGER WILLIAMS - "In The Garden/He Arose"

MESSAGE/PRAYER - ROBERT H. SCHULLER

"It's Easter – God's Loudest Amen!"

RHS: It's Easter, wonderful. This is my 51st Easter in this church. My son, Dr. Robert Schuller, it's his 51st Easter in this church only he was only seven months old and couldn't preach too well then. He sure can now, thank you.

Oh, the Easters we've had! The one I remember probably the most a couple of times I've had the honor of being invited to preach the sermon at the Hollywood Bowl. And once, both times we had to use a helicopter to get me from there to here. But the one time when we left the Hollywood Bowl with just the right amount of minutes to get here for me to stand here, a cloud bank rolled in and it so covered all of Orange County that when I got in the helicopter the pilot said, I don't know if we're going to be able to land, Dr. Schuller. But we're going because it can roll back as fast as it rolls in or maybe we'll find a hole someplace and by phone we can to a driver and he can get you there. So my wife was with me and we flew with such a dense cloud you couldn't even tell there was a earth beneath. And till suddenly as we became close to Disneyland the pilot said, Schuller, you won't believe it, there's a hole above Disneyland. We can duck down and the cloud isn't on the earth, I'll bet we'll have enough space beneath the clouds and the earth to get us to land the helicopter. Wow! We did.

Had some wonderful Easters but never a better Easter than this year. Been a phenomenal year in many, many ways. And in some of the things that are

happening I can't even share with you today and I don't want to because no news is better than the old news. And that is that Easter is here and it's God's loudest amen. I learned those lines from my Greek professor at Western Theological Seminary, Dr. Audersleiss who is still alive, keen and sharp of mind. I think he's 99 years old. And he said one time, "Easter, its man's hallelujah. It's God's loudest amen." What does amen mean? It means so be it, or it means it is good.

Give you an idea of what amen means go back and read Genesis 1, 2 and 3 and where the bible says, "God looked at what He had made and said it was good," substitute the word amen. God looked at the universe with its trees and flowers and said, amen. God looked at the oceans and the waters and the rivers with the fish and He said, amen. And then when He finished with a creature called human being, He looked at us, at our minds, we can think and the souls that we have. We can have feelings different than any other creature. And we have dreaming potential, too. Dream dreams and set goals and imagine what we can become, possibility thinkers. He made us and He looked at that and He said, amen. And then He looked at Jesus, whom He sent into this world to be our Savior, and on Christmas morning the little baby in Bethlehem, and God said, amen.

And then came the cross. That had to happen for our salvation. And the body picked up and put in a tomb, and the stone was rolled in front of it, and Saturday all was silence and darkness and then came the sunrise of Sunday and the angel, the stone rolled away and out of the blackness walked the Jesus who had been put there only three days before. And when He walked out He lifted His face to the heavens and His arms to all the world with their fresh plumes and the palms. God said, amen. It was the end of the game, amen. The rest was with us and Jesus.

You know there comes a time when we realize one of the high points of life. I wrote hymns in my life, a couple have been published and we sang one this morning. You may or may not have known so they skipped the first verse because the service would run too long, but I want to read the three verses:

It's Easter. It's Easter. The season of spring. It's Easter. It's Easter. The birds come to sing. The sun it is shining. The sky it is blue. The world comes alive with a hope that is new. It's Easter. It's Easter. The stone's rolled away. It's Easter. It's Easter. This is the Lord's Day. New faith for the doubter, new joy for the sad. Our Savior walks with us to keep our lives glad. It's Easter. It's Easter. Christ lives once again. It's Easter. It's Easter. God's loudest amen. We sing hallelujah. We sing praise the Lord who raised up our Jesus and spoke the last word.

You know we have to realize that we can apply these principles and passages to our lives. Yes, there is a God and He revealed Himself. We believe in a Creator, that's the great amen. Yes, and there is a book that keeps us together. It's called the bible. Yes, amen. We have a leader, His name is Jesus. Amen. We have an awareness that we are humans with brains, souls, spirits, moods, memories. Amen. And life is eternal, death is not the last word, there's something more. What? That's for us to learn. Amen.

Yes, I want you to use this Easter morning to check the amen's in your life, to check the amen's in your faith. How are you doing? You know I like to think that if you have a faith and you're believing in a cosmic Spirit, intelligent and warm, a Father God. Amen. And if you believe in the bible, that that's really a different book. God is really talking to us through that book, through people who lived it and died it. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Noah, Moses, David, you've got the book. That's an amen. If you've got a Leader in your faith, don't just sit there with your brain alone trying to pick up a spiritual idea here and there, throw that one out, and yeah I think that's possible, oh that's ridiculous. If you are a lonely person picking out and patching together your own faith, good gravy! You surely are not humble,

that's for sure. To think you'd trust yourself in putting together a religious reality up here or here.

Start with humility, I do. Why do I believe the bible? Cause it's a collection of true stories of many people covering centuries, not just one book out of the blue. And not just Schuller putting two and two together and saying yes, that I'll take, no I won't. If you've got a God in your system, amen. If there's a book called the bible, amen. If there's a leader that stands out so you have a mentor and a leader more important is smarter than you are when it comes to religion and His name is Jesus, amen. That's a loud one. Many people don't quite get there. They're missing one of life's biggest amen's. And if you come to an awareness of what you are as a human being with two legs and two arms and head and a heart and haven't grasped the consciousness of a soul, spirit with the power to believe in something beyond the material.

Take Christ, let Him be the expert. What do I believe? Why do I believe in God, I'm sometimes asked. And I've said, because I can't believe that Jesus made a mistake. Because I believe Jesus was a lot smarter on that subject than I am. Amen. And the final amen for us as humans, God's loudest amen was when Christ walked out of that tomb. And your loudest amen and my loudest amen will be when we receive and accept Him as our Savior. What a difference that'll make in life.

I was with Dr. Ben Carson, who's one of the greatest surgeons in the world, and teaches you know at Johns Hopkins, separated conjoined twins, became famous. Greatest surgeon. He was sitting with me on a bus going to the Horatio Alger dinner and I said, you still hold to the faith? Oh, yes, he said, the longer I live the more I believe there's got to be a designer, there's got to be a designer, there's got to be a designer. I was just restudying the eyeball. Dr. Schuller, I don't know many people except eye doctors that really know what the eyeball is. The eye is phenomenal. There had to be a designer. That's the way he put it. Had to be a God.

Well, if you get to the loudest amen for humans is to accept this Jesus as your Savior, the last word. Trust Him then build a faith. I remember a time when the tower hadn't been up too long and there were no buildings across the street, just 150 acres empty land. One day I was looking out of my office on the 12th floor and I saw a man coming across that vacant property. Nobody walked across there. And he kept coming and that was weird. And he came to the edge of the street and he crossed the street and he started walking on our parking lot, weird. And he kept walking. I called somebody, said check him out. So one of our security people went down, met him. Oh he said, my name's Jerry. He said, is there a minister here? Sure. Could I see him? Sure. He came up. My name's Jerry. He said I'm looking for work. Well, I said I think we can use you in the janitor's department if you're willing to start there. He said, sure.

So we hired him as a janitor. Only one or two days after that he said, Dr. Schuller, there's something I have to tell you. I'm on the lam. What does that mean? He said, it means I sneaked out of Orange County jail over there. You see the building. I said I've made calls in that building. He said I sneaked out. I think by now they've got me as an escaped convict. Gee, and we hired you. He said, yeah. I said, we got to call the authorities. He said, I know that's why I came to talk to you now. I got to call them. We called, I placed the call. I said I have a fugitive here in my office. They asked me, is it Jerry? And they named the last name. I said, yes. They said, Dr. Schuller, what if we let him stay there and work for you, would you take him under your wing? You'd probably do more good than if we

took him back here. I thought, I said sure. We are a church. We're here to get the worst people to join, not the saints.

So Jerry came under our wing. He wasn't there long and his job was to clean the engine room with all the pipes and motors and machines. A dark, black and white, ugly place. It wasn't long and he came to me and he said, Dr. Schuller, I've accepted Jesus. I saw him in the lives of people here. I see Him in you. I'm becoming a Christian. And he said, you know, I have an idea, a dream. You talk about dreams. I want you to stay out of the engine room. Me? Yes, you, Dr. Schuller. I don't want anybody to come into the engine room. That's my territory. Okay. But come a time when you can come in, I'll let you know.

Six months later he came and said oh.. his face was alive with light. Come to the engine room. He said, what I was when I walked on this campus I was like your engine room dirty, dark, black, gray. Want you to see the engine room. That's what my life is like today. You can see the change. And I stepped in the engine room and the whole ceiling was painted blue with stars. Oh, and the engines were painted green with white and yellow and there orange and red. Every pipe, every nut, every bolt, the head of even the little bolts were all painted. And we started calling it the Rainbow Room. What a difference emotionally life becomes when the positive force of Jesus comes in and dominates your personality. Well I invite you to think about that.

I remember an Easter, yesterday the family always comes, children, grandchildren, well we had 20 people for breakfast yesterday morning. And there's Christopher, tall, large going to seminary this September, another grandchild going into the ministry. Boy, am I proud of my grandkids; every one knows and loves Jesus. And Arvella said, remember when Chris was only three years old at the breakfast? Remember? She reminded me. Oh yeah. He walked around the buffet table, there's ham, there's turkey, oh and there's salads and there's fruit and there's this kind of fruit and there are buns and hot cross buns and rings, and oh, cinnamon rolls. It's a phenomenal buffet. He walked all the way around with a plate, holding it in his three year old hands, and never picked a thing. And we said, Chris, pick something, there must be something you like. No. No. He walked in the kitchen. A little while later he came out. He had opened drawers. He found other food and he came out with what I can best call a marshmallow sandwich. Two pieces of white cracker and in between a marshmallow.

Laugh, yeah, do you know what? You and I are born and we have a lot of freedom and choices, the kind of values that are on the buffet table for you and I in a country called America. Here in this church there's something on the buffet table. Go to Las Vegas there's other stuff from a buffet table. You can go to some bars and saloons and God knows what they put on the buffet table. And we're given the freedom pick what we want. Life's a scoreboard, at best four quarters and what you've got to do is look up once in a while and see what your score is. Is it a score like Jerry when he walked out of jail, or is it a score go pile high in the second quarter and he's painting the green room. What's your score of your faith? You found a God that you can believe in or dare to put your trust in even if you don't believe in Him? How many amen's have there been in your life? Are you ready for the last amen, the greatest amen? Oh, I got a big amen in the first quarter. I was born into a Christian family and I learned who Jesus was from my mother singing with me "Jesus Loves Me" at the piano bench. Oh, then the second quarter I got a loud amen. I went to a Christian college and a seminary. Boy, did I learn a faith. Yeah, what an amen. Third amen, I've still got Jesus as a leader and I'm finding out what human life is like what the memory, the moods, and then I

find now I'm in the fourth quarter of life. How long will I last? Will I last the whole game? I'm hoping to preach a great sermon here when I'm 100 years old, but I don't know. How about you? What quarter are you in, first quarter, second quarter, half time, third quarter, fourth quarter? Check the scoreboard. How are you doing? Some of you didn't score anything in the first quarter; you weren't born into a very good family. And the second quarter you were in the university and you just didn't buy any of this supernatural stuff. And now you're in the third quarter and you're sitting here listening to me. Hey, what's your score? You pick it out, you set the priorities. I'm not going to convert you. Wouldn't want to if I could. I want you to find God and Jesus Christ for yourself. Clicking here, clicking on there.

Oh, you're going to reach a point what ever quarter it happens it'll be your last amen, your last hallelujah. My hallelujah, I have them in all four quarters. Amen's, all four quarters. I know one thing; Jesus died and was put in a tomb and when He came out God said, amen. It is good. And when I reach that point however, whenever I want to hear from God as He looks down on my life, amen, Schuller. You want that too. You can have it. Let it happen today.

It's Easter. It's Easter. The stone's rolled away. It's Easter. It's Easter. This is the Lord's Day. Yes we sing hallelujah, we sing praise the Lord who raised up His Jesus and spoke the last word, amen.

SOLO – CYNTHIA CLAWSON - "Beautiful Are the Scars"

Beautiful are the scars left in my Savior's hands. Beautiful His sacred wounded head. The marks are His forever but they stand for triumph over sin and life and death. His victory has been made ours. Oh beautiful, beautiful are the scars.

Beautiful are the scars where love is healing me. Though they've never fully disappeared. Through them Jesus power is seen in me, so I can dry another's lonely tears. With love that's known a broken heart. Oh beautiful, beautiful are the scars.

Oh never did that I should boast of glory and blessings in the cross of Jesus Christ. That instrument of torture cruel and glory is now a sigh of endless life. Oh of endless life. Of endless life.

PRAYER – RHS

RHS: Let us pray. Oh, God, thank You that Jesus is alive and You offer Him to each of us to come into our lives and we can be born again. And so, Lord, there's some people here who are choosing to believe in God for the first time and others who are believing in Jesus Christ for the first time and others who are choosing to believe in the book, the bible, for the first time. The vast variety of humans, God. You know where each of us are. Come to us where we are, meet us where we should be. And our hearts are open to You and we will say hallelujah. Amen.