



DEAD OR ALIVE?

LOOKING "DEAD", DOES
NOT MEAN "LIFELESS"

For months it stood there. Dried up. Even its leaves of different, delicate shades of brown, fawn, and pink didn't appear to cause any interest in those who passed by. "I don't know why they don't pull the thing out!" was a common disparaging comment. But no one could be bothered."

Then one day, someone did bother. With the exclamation, "I don't think it is dead!" he regularly carried a bucket of excess shower water to give "The poor thing!" a regular drink, and a miracle occurred. It may permanently be stunted, but the day will come when its unique blooms will give joy to many and food to the birds, and there will be those who will declare, "I always knew it wasn't dead!"

Easter (which will soon be here) tells of a person in history who everyone said, "He's dead! Put him in a tomb!" What they could not accept, even after three years of his words of Godly wisdom and acts of loving miracles, was that this man, "Jesus", was and is the Son of the living God.

Unlike the dry twig, which took a few weeks to struggle back to life, after three days, Jesus was alive and talking with those who had followed him before the horrific day on the cross.

His demonstration of power, even over death, shows us he has the power to fulfil all his promises.

We can all be confident in Jesus' promise that if we hear, believe and trust him and his Father (God), we will flourish and grow strong like a river red gum. We will be valued in old age and will stay fresh and green. Living close to Jesus in faith, we will thrive.

This is Jesus saying, "Others may think you are like a dead stick. I believe you have so much potential. Potential as my true friend. Potential to help others to know and experience my special love and support. I will water you with my words, my Spirit of love and forgiveness, and you will grow and flourish as my Father intended."

Believe him, trust him, talk to him and let him help you grow in faith and thankfulness. And remember he said, "I will not leave you desolate; I will come to you." **(John 14:18)**

God bless,
Kevin

