



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

*“Yield to the Holy Spirit and not to the spirit of fear.  
Then your superstitions will become spiritual successes.”*

## **Every Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Can Be A Good Friday**

*While taking a religion class in public high school, we took field trips to houses of worship for various faiths. I remember going to a synagogue. There, a Jewish priest that told us why Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> was bad. He said “Jesus had 12 disciples which made Him number 13. He was unlucky because He was crucified and died on a Friday ending His claims to being the Son of God. So Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> became known as evil and we still wait for the Messiah.” I almost said, “Wait a minute. You are not telling the rest of the story. On the third day, He arose from the dead. He conquered sin and the grave, was seen by hundreds, and provided resurrection for all that believe. He is the Messiah and I just spoke with Him. It is a Good Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>.”*

Today, about 9% of Americans remain in the grips of [Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>](#) superstitions. The phobia is known as [friggatriskaidekaphobia](#) and [paraskevidekatriaphobia](#). According to the Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute in Asheville, N.C., U.S. companies will lose \$800 to \$900 million in business as a result of those who refuse to travel or go to work on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> per [BuzzWord](#). There is reportedly no written evidence of the Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> superstition before the 19th century or how the date became known as fearful. A big factor could have been in 1907, when Thomas Lawson wrote the book [“Friday the Thirteenth”](#) about a stock broker who purposely created a Wall Street panic on that day. Since 1980, there have been a number of “Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>” movies which has added to the fear and superstitions.

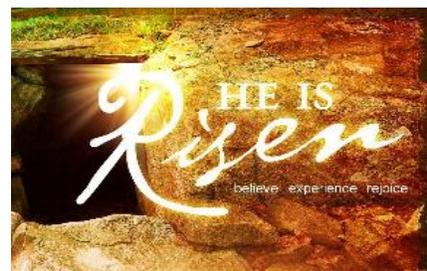
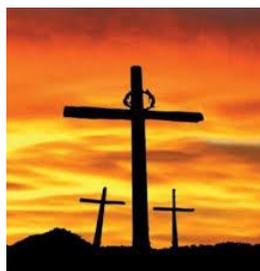
*We as Christians should use every Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> as a time to remember and share about the Friday when Jesus bore our sins on the cross. “For without the shedding of blood there is no remission for sin.” Heb 9:22 “For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.” 2 Cor 5:21 “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Rom 5:8.*

*Do not end Friday 13<sup>th</sup> story like the Priest. Tell the exciting news that Christ has risen. We can have eternal life through Him. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.” John 3:16*



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*Is your Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>  
a day with fear or is it  
a Good Friday?*



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