

Easter Sunday - Why does the Resurrection Matter?

When we come to the week Jesus died, we focus much on the details. We think about the suffering. We think about His sacrifice. Yet, the early church believed so strongly in the importance of the resurrection that they changed the day of worship because of it. Why is the resurrection so important?

Scripture(s): 1 Corinthians 15:14--23; 1 Corinthians 15:29-32; Revelation 21:4; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; Romans 6:6-11; Colossians 2:12, 3:1

Remember this - The resurrection of Jesus is the linchpin that gives the real _____ to our Christian life.

I. The first remarkable declaration about the importance of the resurrection is the resurrection makes faith _____. Make the resurrection (not just the crucifixion) a _____ part of your faith.

II. The second remarkable declaration about the importance of the resurrection is Christ's resurrection ensures _____ resurrection. Face each day with _____ because you know God will raise you up like Jesus.

III. The third remarkable declaration about the importance of the resurrection is Christ's resurrection makes living for Jesus eternally _____ it. Risk and sacrifice for Jesus because He makes it _____ it.

Revelation 21:4 4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 16 Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself, and our God and Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting consolation and good hope by grace, 17 comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work.

IV. The fourth remarkable declaration about the importance of the resurrection is real personal _____ only comes from the resurrection. Experience the _____ that Jesus has purchased for you by dying to sin and living for God.

Romans 6:6-11 6 We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. 7 For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. 8 And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. 9 We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. 10 When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. 11 So you also should consider yourselves to be dead to the power of sin and alive to God through Christ Jesus. (NLT)

Colossians 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead... 3:1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Our challenge: Live resurrection lives instead of _____, _____ lives.

1. Have you ever truly come to the cross of Jesus to receive His promised _____?

2. Does the meaning and confidence of your life come from within, your circumstances, or from the glorious truth that you will be _____ forever just like Jesus.

3. Are you living in the _____ from sin that Jesus has purchased for you?

April 16, 2023

"Low in the Grave He Lay" 160

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" (1st & 4th) 159

"Glorious Day"

"Christ Is Risen"

* Pastoral Prayer & Time in the Word *

"Are You Washed in the Blood" 136