

WHAT EASTER REALLY MEANS

April 12, 2009

FBC Port A

Easter (celebration of Jesus' resurrection) is the culmination of everything God put into motion in Genesis 1. It is the reason for and the celebration of a believer's freedom. The believer's debt to God, because of sin, has been paid. God bought us back and the believer is now an heir to the throne of God. The whole point of the resurrection is: Jesus is who he said he was!

What Does The Resurrection Mean? It Means...

1. Jesus is who he claimed to be.

John 11:25 NLT *Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in Me will live, even after dying.*

John 14:6 NLT *Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.*

2. Jesus has the power he claimed to have.

Mat 28:18 NLT *Jesus came and told His disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.*

John 10:18 NLT *No one can take My life from Me. I sacrifice it voluntarily. For I have the authority to lay it down when I want to and also to take it up again. For this is what My Father has commanded."*

3. Jesus does what he promises to do.

Mar 10:34 NLT *They will mock Him, spit on Him, flog Him with a whip, and kill Him, but after three days He will rise again."*

Mat 28:5-6 NLT *Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as He said would happen. Come, see where His body was lying.*

Why Does the Resurrection Matter? Because Now ...

1. My past can be forgiven.

Col 2:13-14 NLT *You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for He forgave all our sins. He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.*

Rom 8:1 NLT *So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.*

2. My present problems can be managed.

Eph 1:19-20 NLT *I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe Him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.*

Php 4:13 NLT *For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.*

3. My future can be secured.

John 17:3 NLT *And this is the way to have eternal life—to know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, the One You sent to earth.*

1Pet 1:3-4 NLT *All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by His great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, and we have a priceless inheritance—an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay.*



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