

The Resurrected Christ (and the Resurrected Christian)

Today, people all over the world are celebrating the *resurrection* of Jesus the Christ. Most of them, no doubt, celebrated His birth a couple of months ago.

The importance of Jesus' resurrection is clearly manifested in the New Testament:

- Rom.1:4, He was “*declared with power to be the Son of God by the resurrection from the dead...*”
- 1Cor.15:12-20, Without His *resurrection from the dead*, then gospel *preaching* and *faith* is *vain*, *worthless*, and life itself is pointless.
- Thus, from the very beginning of the Christian Dispensation, gospel preaching/teaching by the apostles (and others) gave much emphasis to His *resurrection*, cf. Acts 2:24,32; 3:15,26; 4:2,10; 5:30; 10:40-41.
- As vitally important as Jesus' resurrection was/is, notice carefully Acts 10:42-43. Unless the *preaching* of the gospel (and the *witness* of the *prophets*) is **believed-** in all that the word implies, cf. Jas.2:17-20, man's greatest need of “*forgiveness of sins*” is left unmet... and in such case, Jesus' *birth, life, death, and resurrection* is wasted!
- New dresses or suits, bunnies and chicks, baskets and colored eggs, family brunches or lunches, and once a year celebrations **don't appropriate the resurrection of Jesus into salvation from sin.**

So, what does appropriate the power of Jesus' *resurrection* to our eternal salvation? Rom.4:7-8

1. ***Faith enables grace, Rom.4:16,24 – 5:2.***
2. ***Becoming dead to sin, Rom.6:2,6-7,11; by crucifying our old self.***
3. ***Being buried with Christ by baptism, Rom.6:3-4a.***
4. ***And being raised with Him and walk in newness of life, Rom.6:4b,10-14.***

Conclusions:

- **Commemorating the *death* and *burial* and celebrating the *resurrection* of Jesus Christ is a good thing- Christians do so every *first day of the week*, 1Cor.11:23-26; Acts 20:7.**
- **But to receive the eternal benefit of salvation from His resurrection requires more than once-a-year recognition/celebration:
It requires our own *death to sin, burial with Christ, and resurrection to a new life in Him*; and,
It takes a *daily commitment* of faith and obedience, Luke 9:23.**
- **Make no mistake, because of the *resurrection of Jesus the Christ*, ALL will be raised on that great day, John 5:28-29a, some to *resurrection of life*, John 5:29b, and some to a *resurrection of judgment*, John 5:29c- the choice is yours... make it a *good one!***