



IMPACT OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

April 9th & 10th, 2015

Matthew 28:1-15

Easter. A beautiful time of year for believers in Jesus Christ. While our culture numbs us to what the true impact of the celebration is, it is important to realize what that impact and event really meant and mean. The event of Jesus coming to earth to live among physical mortal beings, be tortured, murdered and then rise from that death to full life is the most critical and important event in the Bible and all of history. It is the basis of our faith and opportunity for living eternally in fellowship with Him. With this event the vail was torn from top to bottom. No more vail, no more separation from God. No more altar, no more sacrifices. The final substitutionary sacrifice had been accomplished that allows us a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. His sacrifice was the last, final, ultimate acceptable substitutionary sacrifice in all of history whereby people could simply believe in it and be saved. The to do list for pleasing our Father is gone **forever**.

The religious leaders were rocked by Jesus' resurrection. Not one person or group was able to produce His dead body - not even today. The Roman government lost authority at this time in the sense that they could never explain, conquer, or find Him. And this RARELY occurred with the Roman government. People being sought by the Roman authorities usually ran, fought or surrendered to that authority. On the day Jesus died and rose from that death, He became the new final authority of all things, rulers and time. So, now we get to either run from, fight or surrender to Him. This important surrendering leads to sanctification which leads to our story and Jesus' offer of salvation to shine bright. Its not about our will or ability to live sin free but about living with the authority of the Holy Spirit which gives us the ability to live pleasing to Him naturally. Salvation is not about WHAT we do but WHAT He did. Our acts come out of His empowerment not to gain his forgiveness, acceptance or eternal life. That occurs when we believe on Him and accept the Holy Spirit into our hearts and lives. How blessed we are as believers to know that no matter what happens, good or bad, to us or around us, that we are guaranteed eternal citizenship with our Lord. He loves us SO much to do that for us. We can be so thankful for our God, Savior, and King who loves us that much.

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