

## IT'S EASTER – SO WHAT? I Cor. 15:58

The importance of the Resurrection of Christ:

1. I know Christ is truly God's Son – Rom. 1:4 – “(Jesus) was declared with power to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead...”

2. My sins can be forgiven, because His death paid the price. I Cor. 15:17 – “And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.”

Rom. 4:25 – “Christ was raised for our justification.”

3. I know this life is not all there is, and death is not the end. I Cor. 15:20,21 – “But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through a man.”

I Cor. 15:58: (KJV) “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

### BECAUSE OF EASTER:

I. I CAN STAND FIRM IN MY FAITH – steadfast – from \_\_\_\_\_

If you have questions, or know someone who does, I suggest these resources:

“Evidence that Demands a Verdict” - Josh McDowell      “Know Why You Believe” - Paul Little

“Who Moved the Stone?” - Frank Morrison      “The Case for Christ” – Lee Stroebel

II. I CAN WITHSTAND THE PRESSURES OF LIFE – unmoveable - pressures from the \_\_\_\_\_.

Eph. 4:14 – “Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming.”

Eph. 1:18-20: “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms...”

III. I CAN LIVE MY LIFE FOR GOD - always abounding in the work of the Lord

Mark 16: 8: “Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb.

They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.”

\*\*Trembling - feeling unable to meet what is required of you

\*\*Bewildered (KJV amazed) –a state of blended fear and wonderment

\*\*Afraid – the idea of reverence, of being in awe.

Matt. 28:8 – “So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell His disciples.” V. 9,10 – they meet Jesus Who tells them not to be afraid, but go tell His brothers to go to Galilee and He would meet them there.

\*\*Afraid – alarm; hesitancy to do something

\*\*Full of joy – cheer, delight

Do you feel incapable – “trembling” – about something you were called to do?

Are you “bewildered” sometimes? Why didn’t God say “yes” to my prayer? Why didn’t this work out? Why are all these trials coming my way?

Easter says you can be filled with reverential awe and joy – even when you are trembling and bewildered! These are not mutually exclusive!

A. Always – consistently, not “hot and cold”. \_\_\_\_\_

B. Abounding – excelling in this; \_\_\_\_\_ than expected

C. In the work of the Lord - the ordinary word for work  
Eph. 1:18ff

#### IV. I KNOW MY LIFE MATTERS

A. “You \_\_\_\_\_” - we’ve not experienced it yet!

B. “Labor” - means \_\_\_\_\_ work; work with trouble  
Rev. 14:13 – when we get to heaven, we will “rest from our labors” – same word!

C. “not in vain” - useless, foolish, empty, ineffective.  
Gal. 6:9 – "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

D. “in the Lord” - in union with and dependence upon Him."  
Heb. 6:10 - "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love which ye have showed toward His name" – even a cup of cold water!

