Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-49; John 20:1-23

Easter Sunday or Resurrection Sunday?

Is this about bunnies? Eggs? Chocolate? Jelly beans? Or about the gift Jesus gave us, by dying on the cross, which is eternal life? Don’t get me wrong the aforementioned items are great treats to garnish your celebration, but they are not the reason for celebrating. Jesus defeated death by rising from the dead and is currently alive. That’s what it’s all about. It’s important to celebrate this reality for if Jesus is dead, so are our hopes for our eternal life with God.

*And if Christ has* ***not*** *been* ***raised****, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.*

*(1 Corinthians 15:17)*

Easter Sunday is Resurrection Sunday for every individual who has confessed Jesus is Lord and believes that He was raised from the dead. For everyone who has received His gift. For everyone who can celebrate being saved from death to eternal life.

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God* *not by works, so that no one can boast.*

*(Ephesians 2:8-9)*

*“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. (John 5:24)*

*For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.*

*” I tell you, now is the time of God’s favor, now is the day of salvation. (2 Corinthians 6:2)*

*Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me. (Revelation 3:20)*

If you have read these verses and sense God knocking on the door of your heart, why not give yourself over to Him and receive the gift He has for you. Do it right now. All you have to do is admit to God that you have been living for yourself and have not been committed to Him and His ways. In doing so, you have been guilty of sinning against God. Tell Him you want to turn away from that life and live a life that is committed to Him. God tells us that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords and that there is no one above Him. Read that sentence over again and confess out loud (which means to agree with) to God, that Jesus is Lord and that you believe He is alive, after being risen from the dead. If you prayed this prayer from your heart, God tells us in scripture that you are saved from eternal death and now have the gift, our eternal life. Not only that, but the Holy Spirit has come to live within your heart to counsel and guide you.

So now what? Well Jesus said that if we confess Him before man, He will confess us before the Father. So, find someone to tell that you just prayed to receive Jesus. The next thing you should do is find your Bible and begin to read it everyday. Try starting in the Gospel of John. Look for a church that teaches God’s word accurately, right from the Bible. Hey, if you need someone to talk with, send me an email, I’d love to celebrate with you. SteveZ@averageguyministries.com

Happy Easter