



Easter Love

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

April 12, 2009

Pastor Lyle L. Wahl

Because Of Easter Love ...

Christ Died And Rose Again For Us.

1. Fact: Jesus died and rose again. (14-15; *cf.* Matthew 27:45 - 28:10; Mark 15:21 - 16:8; Luke 23:26 - 24:12; John 19:17 - 20:18; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8)
2. Fact: Jesus died and rose again for us. (14-15, 21; *cf.* Romans 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:10)
3. Question: “Why” (*cf.* John 3:16; Romans 3:23, 5:6-8; Ephesians 2:1-10; 1 John 4:9-10)

Christ Changes Us.

1. Fact: Christ makes us new creatures. (17-18; *cf.* Galatians 6:15)
2. Fact: Christ gives us a new way of living. (15-16; *cf.* Romans 6:1-23; Galatians 2:20)
3. Question: “How?” (20; *cf.* John 1:12; Romans 10:9-10)

Christ Commissions Us.

1. Fact: He has entrusted this good news of reconciliation to us. (19; *cf.* Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8)
2. Fact: He has made us His ambassadors. (14, 18, 20)
3. Question: “So ... ?” (*cf.* 1 Corinthians 4:1-2; 9:16)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Easter Monday. For some the last day of a four day weekend, while most are off to work to begin another week, and for many of those, just *another week*. Begin this week reflecting on what difference Christ makes to your life each day and week. Because of God great love, His *Easter Love*, you and I are not locked into a life without meaning—we have everlasting meaning and purpose in Christ!

Tuesday. Christ died and rose again for you. Read 2 *Corinthians* 5:14-21 noting the references to “us,” “we,” “all,” “them,” “anyone.” God so loved the world, so loved you, that He gave Christ to die and be raised from the dead so we can have everlasting life with Him. Yes, this is very, very familiar truth. Keep it fresh as you regularly think about Christ’s humbling Himself, sacrificing Himself in love for you.

Wednesday. In His great love for us Christ changes us when we place our faith in Him. He makes us new creatures (verses 17-18). The *big word* or aspect of that which Paul point to here is reconciliation (see verses 18, 19, 20). We were “strangers and aliens” from God (Ephesians 2:19), spiritually “dead in [our] trespasses and sins” (Ephesians 2:1), facing everlasting separation and judgment from God because of our sin (John 3:18; Romans 6:23). Thank God for making you a new creature or creation in Christ.

Thursday. God in His great love not only sent Christ to die and be raised for us and change us, but He commissions us. The good news of reconciliation is given to us to share with others (19), and we are God’s ambassadors to encourage, to “beg” (verse 20) people to come to God through Christ. Is God’s love controlling your (verse 14), evidence by being His ambassador, His witness?

Friday/Saturday. On Sunday we plan to return to the new series in Exodus. Read chapter 2 as you prepare for our time of worship together.

© 2009 Lyle L. Wahl