

“The Message of Easter”
Luke 24:1-9

Sometime ago I read about an Easter service where the worship leaders marched around the church building in a symbolic search for the body of Christ. They reentered the sanctuary and cried out in loud voices: “Christ is risen! Christ is risen!” and the people in the congregation replied: “He is risen, indeed! He is risen, indeed!”

This, in essence, is the message of Easter – the confident proclamation that Christ is risen. We find a number of spiritual truths contained in this glorious message. Here are three of these truths.

- I. The message of Easter is a message of love. Why did Jesus Christ come to earth, die on a cross and be resurrected from death? Because God loves us. Hear this message of love from God’s Word:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

God commended His love toward us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Herein is love. Not that we love God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

- II. The message of Easter is a message of hope. There is so much despair in our world today. Hope is needed. And hope is available no matter what the circumstances of life may be. The hymn writer wisely proclaims: “My hope is built on Jesus’ blood and righteousness.” In Jesus Christ we have hope – for now and for eternity.
- III. The message of Easter is a message of victory. Easter proclaims victory of good over evil – victory of life over death.

My dad died on June 26, 1969. When we met with the pastor to discuss the funeral service, we made a request that the theme of the service be VICTORY. Why? Because of our father’s relationship with God through personal faith in the resurrected Christ as Savior and Lord. Dad always said: “Don’t worry about where you bury my body because I am not going to be there.” Because Christ lives, Dad lives – not in some grave but in Heaven.

Easter calls for decision. Those early disciples had decisions to make after the Risen Lord personally issued His great commission to them. They accept His call to tell the Good News to the world to the degree that they were accused of

“turning the world upside down” for Christ. Share this divine message – this message of love, hope, and victory.

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