

How Can This Be?

Ephesians 1:18-23

Easter Sunday!

April 21, 2019

I pray also 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 the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:18-23 (NIV)

Purpose...a brighter tomorrow

- Approach Each Day with _____ - _____
- See the _____ of what Easter provides for us - _____
- Living with the ability to have an _____ - _____

¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that He raised Christ from the dead. But He did not raise Him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.

1 Corinthians 15:14-18 (NIV)

- Church is _____ (vs. 14)
- Living a _____ (vs. 15)
- Disconnected from our _____ (vs. 17)
- No _____ (vs. 18)

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 1 Corinthians 15:20 (NIV)

How is this possible?

Easter changes the _____ of my _____!

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body..."Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him, just as He told you.'"

Mark 16:1, 6-7 (NIV)

The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter....And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Luke 22:61-62 (NIV)

Easter re-aligns _____ is in _____

Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see My hands. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to Him, "My Lord and my God! Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

John 20:27-29 (NIV)

- Removes the _____ of my _____

God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Colossians 2:13-15 (NIV)

- Alleviates the _____ of my _____

I pray that you will begin to understand how incredibly great His power is to help those who believe Him. It is that same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead...

Ephesians 1:19-20 (TLB)

- Eases the _____ of my _____

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3 (NIV)

Easter gives my life _____ and _____

But Peter and John replied, "Judge for yourselves whether it is right in God's sight to obey you rather than God. For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard." Acts 4:19-20 (NIV)

