

Remembering Jesus

(1 Corinthians 11:24)

Introduction

1. Today thousands of people across the world will gather for a “SPECIAL” service to remember the resurrection of Jesus. (The world calls this Easter)
2. The only time the word “Easter” is used in the New Testament is in Acts 12:4 and only in the KJV. That word is “PASCHA” in the Greek and should have been translated “Passover” as it is every other time that particular Greek word is used in the KJV and most every other version.

Acts 12:4 So when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover (*EASTER*, KJV).

- A. But none the less, this passage of scripture is referring to the seven-day Passover festival. There is never any place in the New Testament where a YEARLY celebration of the resurrection of Jesus was ever practiced. We remember His death weekly.
 - Once heard a comment: “We can’t get through the service if we had to observe the Lord’s Supper weekly.”
 - 1) Please refer to today’s bulletin for a broader, more in-depth explanation of this day the world calls “*EASTER*.”
3. Christians, those that are baptized into Christ for remission of sins in accordance to Christ’s New Covenant, remember the death of Jesus every week.
 - A. This is done as we come and worship Him weekly and in the partaking of the communion which represents His body and shed blood for our sins.

4. To remember Jesus, not only His death, but who He is, must be man's most important responsibility of life. This is done daily and weekly, not just once or twice a year!

A. The tragedy of forgetting God is suggested in Jeremiah and Hosea. Notice:

Jeremiah 18:15 Because My people have forgotten Me, they have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves **to stumble in their ways**, from the ancient paths...

Hosea 4:6 My people are **destroyed for lack of knowledge**. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; because you have **forgotten the law of your God**, I also will forget your children.

B. A continual consciousness of Jesus is necessary to successful Christian living — happiness and peace of mind are impossible without it.

5. In the past, God impressed upon His people the importance of remembering Him.

A. At the crossing of the Jordan, the memorial stones were erected so that God's children would not forget who, how, and why they were delivered safely (Josh 4:1-7).

B. The feasts (Passover, Pentecost, Tabernacles) reminded them of God's goodness.

6. In this morning's lesson we will discuss three things regarding Jesus that we should always remember!

We must Remember the Sacrifice of Jesus

1. **In remembering His sacrifice for us, we might ask: “*what all was involved in that sacrifice?*”**
 - A. ***A death:*** Remember, Jesus died outside Jerusalem some 2,000 years ago. The Lamb of God was slain, His blood was shed.
John 19:31-37
 - B. ***A death of suffering:*** Some die without suffering, but Christ suffered a death of crucifixion.
 - C. ***A death of humiliation:*** The six trials were but mockery; scourging; a crown of thorns and spit; He died between the robbers.

Acts 8:33 In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth."

2. **God has provided us a means of remembering this great sacrifice on our behalf.**
 - A. **The New Testament record of His death.**
 - 1) **We are told that the angels desired to look into His sufferings.**

1 Peter 1:11-12 searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven-- things which angels desire to look into.

a) What an honor it is for us to see and know today!

- B. *The plan of salvation:* The symbolism of repentance and baptism is a reminder of Jesus' death, burial and resurrection.**

Romans 6:3-4 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

- C. *Christian Worship:***

- 1) **Songs: "When I survey the wondrous cross", "On a hill far away"**
 - 2) **Lord's Supper: The bread and fruit of the vine. "By Christ redeemed, In Christ restored, We keep the memory adored, And show the death of our dear Lord, Until He come."**
- 3. As we remember the SACRIFICE of Jesus, we are brought to a deeper sense of humility, gratitude and love!**
- A. Not just once a year, but EVERY WEEK (publicly) and EVERY DAY (privately).**

We must Remember the Presence of Jesus

1. Christians are assured of the daily presence of Jesus.

A. We have His promise.

Matthew 28:20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "**I will never leave you nor forsake you.**"

Acts 17:27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though **He is not far from each one of us;**

B. We believe in His Omnipresence. As God, He can always be with us.

1 Peter 3:12-14

2. Christians must remember the power of Jesus' daily presence.

A. Jesus remembers us daily, why shouldn't we remember Him daily? Not just once or twice a year as most in the denominational world do, or only on the first day of the week, but every day!

B. Think about what we have accessible to us in the presence of Jesus:

1) **All Power!** (Matt 28:19; Eph 3:20) Why fear with this power available?

2) **All Wisdom!** (Col 2:3; Jam 1:5) Why live in doubt?

3) **All Wealth!** (Phil 4:19) Why be anxious?

C. A daily, not just weekly, consciousness of His presence will make for holiness, confidence, and happiness in our life.

We must Remember the Coming of Jesus

1. The early Christians remembered vividly the promise of the second coming.
 - A. It was promised by:
 - 1) Jesus:
John 14:1-3
 - 2) It was told to the Apostles:
Acts 1:10-11
2. We must remember that the second coming of Jesus is imminent - it will happen.
 - A. Therefore, we should be prepared. We do this by making sure we have obeyed the teachings of the one who will judge us. Death is around the corner.

Hebrews 5:9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,

3. As Christians we ought to anticipate the joy of the second coming of Jesus.
 - A. It will be a time of resurrection.
Philippians 3:20-21
2 Corinthians 5:1-10
 - B. It will be a time of reward.
2 Timothy 4:7-8
 - C. This will be a time of reunion with Christian friends. **"Out on the hill of that wonderful country, Happy, contented and free, Loved ones are waiting and watching my coming: Heaven holds all to me."**

Conclusion

1. **Let’s keep our thoughts focused on Jesus Christ our Lord.**
 - A. **On His past sacrifice on behalf of each of one of us, on His present nearness to us, and on His future coming for us.**

2. **Those that are assembling themselves for the first time this year, on this so called “special day” to remember the resurrection of Jesus, are missing the point of what Jesus came to give to man.**
 - B. **It is not just His resurrection we should remember about Him, but His life, death, burial and resurrection.**

3. **If Christ would not have lived, died, and resurrected, there would be no point in being here today.**

4. **Jesus lived so that we can follow His example. He died to be our sacrifice for sin. He was buried so we would die to sin. He resurrected, overcoming death, so that we can have our sins forgiven and live with Him eternally!**
 - A. **Now that is something worth remembering - Not just once a year, or just on the first day of each week, but EVERY DAY that we live!**

Invitation

Place		Date	