

Easter at Whitesburg

The Resurrected Life!

Ephesians 1:18 - 2:9

Sunday, April 9, 2023

An elderly lady walked slowly into a life insurance office in Minneapolis during the worst part of the Great Depression. She wanted to know if she could stop paying the premiums on her husband's life insurance policy. "He's been dead sometime now," she said, "and I don't believe I can afford making the payments any more." The clerk behind the desk looked up her husband's policy and discovered it was worth several hundred thousands of dollars. This poor lady had no idea. No one had ever explained to her how life insurance works. She had no idea all that was hers.

Today, as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, I want you to know all that is yours in Christ. The resurrection is a historical fact. However, it's not a fact merely for history, it's a reality every single day that shapes, guides, and enriches the life of those who believe.

The Bible makes it crystal clear, you either are walking dead: you are without Christ; or you are walking alive: you have life with Christ, you are in Christ! If you are in Christ, His resurrected life impacts everything!

Ephesians 1:18-23; 2:1-7

Life without Christ! (Ephesians 2:1-3)

(What you are without Jesus!)

- dead
- demonically influenced
- depraved
- designated for wrath

Life with Christ! (Ephesians 1:18-23; 2:4-7)

(What you are when you have Jesus!)

- alive
- accepted
- affirmed
- abundance
- assured

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No one invites you to go to hell! Only Jesus invites you to go to heaven!

Ephesians 2:8–10 (NASB95)

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

Romans 10:8–10 (NASB95)

But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; ¹⁰ for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

True saving faith involves repentance from one’s sin and a complete trust in the work of Christ to save from sin and make one righteous.

Revelation 22:17 (NASB95)

The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.