

What is Easter All About?

Easter holds deep significance for Christians as it commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, an event that is at the heart of the Christian faith. According to the Gospel accounts, Jesus was crucified, died, and was buried, but on the third day, He rose again, conquering sin and death. Not only is this momentous event a historical occurrence, it was also a divine act of redemption, fulfilling God's promise of salvation. As the apostle Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:17, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain; you are still in your sins." Without the resurrection, many Christians would be void of their central hope—the victory over sin and the assurance of eternal life.

Easter eggs and rabbits, though commonly associated with modern Easter celebrations, have no biblical connection to the true meaning of Easter. These symbols are rooted in ancient pagan traditions that celebrated fertility and springtime renewal, with eggs representing new life and rabbits known for their rapid reproduction. However, the biblical Easter is solely focused on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, His victory over sin and death, and the promise of eternal life for those who believe in Him. For Christians, the significance of Easter lies in the empty tomb and the fulfillment of God's plan for salvation—not in secular symbols that detract from the sacredness of this holy day.

The resurrection affirms Jesus' identity as the Son of God and validates His teachings. Throughout His ministry, Jesus foretold His death and resurrection, demonstrating that His sacrifice was part of God's divine plan. In John 11:25-26, Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will still live, even if he dies. Whoever lives and believes in me will never die." His rising from the grave proved that He held power over life and death,

providing irrefutable evidence that He was indeed the promised Messiah.

Observing Easter with reverence is important for Christians because it is a reminder of the price Jesus paid for humanity's sins. His crucifixion was a purposeful sacrifice. As Isaiah 53:5 prophesied, "But he was pierced for our transgressions. He was crushed for our iniquities. The punishment that brought our peace was on him; and by his wounds we are healed." The resurrection completes this redemptive act, showing that God accepted Christ's sacrifice and broke the chains of sin, granting believers the hope of new life.

Easter is also a day of victory, symbolizing the defeat of death. Paul triumphantly said in 1 Corinthians 15:55, "Death, where is your sting? Hades, where is your victory?" Christ's resurrection dismantles the power of the grave, ensuring that death is not the end for those who put their faith in Him. This means that physical death is a passage to eternal life with God—a truth that shapes their understanding of life and mortality.

The importance of Easter extends beyond personal salvation; it unites believers in a shared hope. It is a time when the Church, as the body of Christ, collectively celebrates the cornerstone of its faith. The resurrection binds Christians together, reinforcing the reality that they are part of a larger spiritual family. As Romans 6:4 says, "We were buried therefore with him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life." This communal aspect demonstrates that Easter is not only about individual redemption but also about being part of God's renewed creation.

Easter inspires believers to live changed lives. The resurrection calls Christians to walk in the newness of life, mirroring Christ's victory by turning away from sin and embracing righteousness. Colossians 3:1 says, "If then you were raised together with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God." Observing Easter with reverence means acknowledging that Jesus' resurrection empowers believers to live with purpose, reflecting His light in a dark world.

Christians should also view Easter as a proclamation of hope. Just as Jesus rose from the dead, His followers cling to the promise of their own future resurrection. 1 Thessalonians 4:14 says, "For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with him those who have

fallen asleep in Jesus." This assurance compels believers to face life's challenges with unwavering faith, knowing that their ultimate destiny is eternal fellowship with God.

Easter is not simply a yearly observance—it is a declaration of the most pivotal event in history. The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of Christian faith, hope, and love. It calls for solemn reflection on Christ's sacrifice, joyous celebration of His triumph, and a renewed commitment to live in the power of His resurrection. Christians should observe Easter with deep reverence, recognizing it as a sacred day that proclaims God's enduring love and the unshakable hope of everlasting life through His risen Son.



Suggested Reading:

The Gospel of Jesus – God's Plan for Salvation