

“HE IS RISEN!”

Every first day of the week, not just Easter Sunday, is “Resurrection Day” for the child of God. It was on “the first day of the week” that Jesus rose victorious from the grave (Mark 16:2; Luke 24; John 20:1)). It was on “the first day of the week” that the disciples, in memory of Jesus, met to “break bread” in observance of the Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25). Of what significance is Jesus’ resurrection?

By Jesus’ resurrection He is proven to be “the Son of God with power”, the apostle Paul declared in Romans 1:4. This “power” is life-giving power. Other religious leaders have come and gone. Moses died and is no more with us. So also are false teachers such as Mohammed, Confucius, and Buddha. , As all others before and since, these have all fallen before the “grim reaper”, and have not found the means to break his bands asunder. But the Lord Jesus proved Himself victorious over death, hell and the grave. As victor, He declared to John in Revelation 1:18, *“I am he that liveth, and was dead, and, behold, I am alive evermore. Amen: and have the keys of hell and of death.”* At His return He will use those keys to set free all His faithful ones.

Because He was raised, we can have hope. *“If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain, we are yet in our sins. Then they which are fallen asleep in Jesus are perished”* (1 Corinthians 15:17-18). Even as reconciliation with God is accomplished by His death, so *“we shall be saved by his life”*(Romans 5:10). This hope was thus expressed to the Corinthians: *“But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the firstfruits of them that slept, for since by man (Adam) came death, by man (Christ) came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ’s at his coming”* (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

In anticipation of our future resurrection, we are called upon to identify by faith with His death and resurrection in baptism. We are to be *“baptized into Jesus Christ...into his death,”* and be raised up to *“walk in newness of life”* (Romans 6:3-4). Have you committed your life to Christ and received His gift of salvation made available by grace through His death and resurrection? If we can assist you, contact

us.

-Ron