

# Easter 2013

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All of Christianity hinges on the resurrection.

**Either Jesus has risen from the dead, or we are dead in our sins!**

**I Corinthians 15:17** - And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is a delusion and you are still lost in your sins.

Why did Jesus have to die, and what is the significance of the resurrection?

"In the cross of Christ I see three things. First, a description of the depth of man's sin. Second, the overwhelming love of God. Third, the only way of salvation."

- *Billy Graham*

God created this world for his man to enjoy, and now his enemy rules his creation - (*II COR 4:4*)

**Genesis 3:15** - I will set a feud between you and the woman, between her seed and yours. Her seed shall bruise your head or remove your authority, but you shall bruise his heel.

- One of the first recorded promises God made in the Bible was made to Satan: "I will redeem mankind from your authority."
- From this point on, Satan tries to kill the Redeemer.
  - Cain kills Righteous Abel
  - Pharaoh tries to kill every man child of Israel and Moses
  - Every child in Israel under the age of 2, during Jesus life

### THE BEGINNING OF JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY

**John 1:29** - Behold the LAMB OF GOD, which takes away the sin of the world.

"Christ took your cup of grief, your cup of the curse, pressed it to his lips, drank it to its fulness, then filled your cup with his sweet, pardoning, sympathizing love, and gave it back for you to drink, and to drink forever!"

- Octavius Winslow, 1850

**No one took His life, He gave it!**

**John 18:4-6** – <sup>4</sup> Jesus therefore, knowing all things that should come upon him, went forth and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" <sup>5</sup> They answered him "Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus said to them, "I AM" <sup>6</sup> As soon as he had said unto them, "I AM", they went over backward and fell to the ground.

**Jesus was showing that no man was taking His life from Him, but He was willfully laying it down.**

**He became the sacrifice for the sin of the whole world.**

**The High Priest of God offered the Lamb of God upon the altar of the cross. (*Let His blood be upon us*)**

**1 Peter 1:18-19** – <sup>18</sup> God paid a ransom to save you from the impossible road to heaven which your fathers tried to take, and the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver as you very well know. <sup>19</sup> But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.

**What will you do with His unspeakable gift?**

"Either sin is with you, lying on your shoulders, or it is lying on Christ, the Lamb of God. Now if it is lying on your back, you are lost; but if it is resting on Christ, you are free, and you will be saved. Now choose what you want."

- Martin Luther, 1530