

The Resurrection = Life and Hope

I Peter 1:3-9

Introduction...

- Let me paint a few pictures that may seem hopeless, but because there is life in these stories...there is also hope.
 - A man lies motionless in a hospital bed...
 - A person is flirting with a dangerous sin...
 - In and around Jerusalem darkness had covered the land and Jesus' dead body had been laid to rest in a tomb.
- Because Jesus is ALIVE we have life and we have hope!

Part I – Christ Gives Us Life by His Resurrection...

- From the very beginning of his letter, Peter gives glory to God because that is exactly where all glory belongs.
- It is no coincidence that Peter (by inspiration of the Holy Spirit) connects the resurrection of Jesus with our being “begotten again” to a living hope.
cf. John 3:3-5
- Being born again or begotten again as Peter puts it would be impossible had Jesus not been raised from the dead.
cf. 1 Cor. 15:14-20 and 1 Peter 1:3
- Peter also connects the resurrection of Jesus to an awesome inheritance that is ours by faith.
cf. 1 Peter 1:3-4
- Our inheritance, made possible by Jesus resurrection is described in three amazing ways...
 1. Incorruptible
 2. Undeified

3. Does not fade away

- What is even more amazing is that God is using His almighty power to keep this inheritance for us and to keep us in this inheritance.
cf. 1 Peter 1:5

Part II – Christ Give Us Hope for Our Resurrection...

- By faith we believe Peter's testimony and we believe that Jesus is alive and because Jesus is alive there is hope for our own resurrection.
- While this letter of Peter is joyful, Peter also recognizes that the life of a believer is not without challenges.
cf. 1 Peter 1:6-7
- The fires that Peter mentions in verse 7 are not designed to reduce our faith to ashes but rather to burn away our own self-confidence and drive us to our Savior.
- While we may suffer in this life, we know by faith that this present suffering is not even worth comparing to the glory of eternal life.
cf. Romans 8:18
- We can be joyful in the midst of afflictions because Christ's resurrection assures us of our own resurrection and eternal life.
cf. 1 Peter 1:7-9
- If you carry a burden of guilt around with you because you don't always trust the promises of God, remember that what the Lord has done for Peter He has also done for us.

Conclusion/Review

- *“Life with Christ is an endless hope. Life without Christ is a hopeless end”*
- Easter can be summed up in two words: Jesus Live! Because He lives there is life and there is hope!

(tuck these notes in your Bible for review and encouragement)