



Christian Montessori Fellowship

Easter is not just a day

**Easter Sunday is our celebration of the resurrection
of Jesus from the grave.**

We need to understand that His resurrection was more than just His physical body coming back to life but a resurrection, a re-birth of hope that death was not the end for Jesus – or us.

Hope and life seem to be different sides of the same coin. In difficult situations – wars, famines, natural disasters – those who lose hope - often lose life. Can you imagine the Saturday before Resurrection Sunday? The disciples looked at each other searching for some hope and all they saw in each other's eyes was the reflection of their own despair. What hope did they have?

Every expectation of their last three years had been dashed – crucified. Their hope of God’s kingdom vanished into the tomb. If the one who made blind eyes see, raised the dead, walked on water, and stilled the storm was dead, what hope could they possibly have?

Modern hope – I hope it doesn’t rain – is mostly wishful thinking. Biblical hope – is God’s assurance and God’s promise which is always true. This brings us to this side of resurrection Sunday. The disciples on Saturday had no understanding, no framework – and no hope. And their first reactions on Sunday were all disbelief.

They wouldn’t believe the women who had been to the tomb. They couldn’t even believe their own eyes. And when Jesus appeared their joy was not mixed with any understanding. They had no idea yet of the significance of what they were witnessing – the rebirth of hope and not just of an earthly kingdom but of an eternal relationship. Their relationship to Jesus assured their eternal destination. Our relationship assures our eternal destination, our hope.

All of the good things we do arising from that relationship – church, giving, serving - is but a small thank you and is not a payment or even a down payment on eternity. The thief on the cross received eternal life solely because he asked. Was anybody in a more hopeless position? He was the first recipient of the hope of the cross even without being able to do anything to “earn” that assurance, that hope.

Easter says that hope, that reality, is a gift.

Jesus came to share God's hope with us. Hope is God's assurance - not our wishful thinking. And God often gives us "resurrection" hope. Every valley you pass through, every crisis, every failure can become a Good Friday before your new resurrection Sunday of hope. Easter is more than just Jesus coming back to life. It is a new life we live in Christ. And as Paul tells us, "The glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Col. 1:27)

Resurrection Sunday is our hope – our assurance – just as Jesus tells us, "Where I am, my servant will be also." (John 12:26) And that is your promise from God.