

“Easter Sunday - 2020”

Acts 17:18

¹⁸ A group of Epicurean and Stoic philosophers began to debate with him. Some of them asked, “What is this babbling trying to say?” Others remarked, “He seems to be advocating foreign gods.” They said this because **Paul was preaching the good news about Jesus and the resurrection.**

1 Corinthians 15:3-7

³ For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance**; that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ that he was buried, that **he was raised on the third day** according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that **he appeared** to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. ⁶ After that, **he appeared** to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷ Then **he appeared** to James, then to all the apostles, ⁸ and last of all **he appeared** to me also, as to one abnormally born.

1. Because we need to know we are truly forgiven!

Nobody is free who is unforgiven.

1 Corinthians 15:17-22

¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.** ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so **in Christ all will be made alive.**

2. We need to be assured of the power of God!

3. We need to know God wins in the end!

1 Peter 1:3

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope **through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**