

Commemoration to Celebration

A Resurrection Sunday Message

Matthew 27:45-54; 28:1-10

- I. **Commemorating the Cross (Matt. 27:45-54)**
 - A. The event - Crucifixion
 - B. The expression - Communion

- II. **Celebrating the Resurrection (Matt. 28:1-10)**
 - A. The event - Resurrection
 - B. The expression – Proclamation

More to Consider

D.M. Stearns was preaching in Philadelphia. At the close of the service a stranger came up to him and said, "I don't like the way you spoke about the cross. I think that instead of emphasizing the death of Christ, it would be far better to preach Jesus, the teacher and example." Stearns replied, "If I presented Christ in that way, would you be willing to follow Him?" "I certainly would," said the stranger without hesitation. "All right then," said the preacher, "let's take the first step. He did no sin. Can you claim that for yourself?" The man looked confused and somewhat surprised. "Why, no," he said. "I acknowledge that I do sin." Stearns replied, "Then your greatest need is to have a Savior, not an example!"

Source Unknown.

"If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead."

Timothy Keller, *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*

"The message of Easter is that God's new world has been unveiled in Jesus Christ and that you're now invited to belong to it."

N. T. Wright

"The devil, darkness, and death may swagger and boast, the pangs of life will sting for a while longer, but don't worry; the forces of evil are breathing their last. Not to worry...He's risen!"

Swindoll Charles R.

"Through the death of Christ we are blessed, that is justified and made alive. As long as sin, death and the curse remain in us, sin damns us, death kills us and the curse curses us; but when these things are transferred to Christ, what is ours becomes his, and what is his becomes ours. Let us learn, therefore, in every temptation to transfer sin, death, the curse and all evils that oppress us from ourselves to Christ, and in the other hand to transfer righteousness, life

and blessing from him to us. For he does in fact bear all our evils, because God the Father, as Isaiah says, 'has laid on him the iniquity of us all.'

Martin Luther,