

RESOLUTION, RELAXATION, AND RESPONSIBILITY

Luke 24:37-43

(2024 Easter Sunday Message)

³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost.

³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?"

³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?"

⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,

⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

What Easter means to us today?

1. **R**_____ (Seeking is over! Our immediate decision is required at this very moment.)

Acts 2:32-36

³² "God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this.

³³ Now he is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today. ³⁴ For David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, 'The LORD said to my Lord, "Sit in the place of honor at my right hand ³⁵ until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet.'" ³⁶ "So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!"

Acts 17:30-31

³⁰ God overlooked people's ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him.

³¹ For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.

2 Corinthians 6:1-2

¹ As God's partners, we beg you not to accept this marvelous gift of God's kindness and then ignore it. ² For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation.

2. **R**_____ (We are not going to miss anything!)

John 14:27

²⁷ I am leaving you with a gift - peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.

John 14:1

¹ Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.

Matthew 6:26-34

²⁶ Look at the birds. They don't plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren't you far more valuable to him than they are? ²⁷ Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? ²⁸ And why worry about your clothing? Look at the lilies of the field and how they grow. They don't work or make their clothing, ²⁹ yet Solomon in all his glory was not dressed as beautifully as they are. ³⁰ And if God cares so wonderfully for wildflowers that are here today and thrown into the fire tomorrow, he will certainly care for you. Why do you have so little faith? ³¹ So don't worry about these things, saying, "What will we eat? What will we drink? What will we wear?" ³² These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers, but your heavenly Father already knows all your needs. ³³ Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need. ³⁴ So don't worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring its own worries. Today's trouble is enough for today.

3. **R**_____ (Our present matters. Life matters. Wise living matters. Our purpose and mission do matter!)

John 13:34; 15:12

³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other.

¹² This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you.

Acts 1:8

⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, "I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. ²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

1 Corinthians 15:58

⁵⁸ So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

Questions for discussion:

1. Why do people hesitate to make a clear decision to follow Christ for their spiritual life?
2. Have you ever felt that you might miss certain pleasure if you followed Christ wholeheartedly?
3. In what practical ways, can we love others at home, at church, and at workplace?
4. **(Personal application)** What decision do I need to make for the next step of my spiritual growth? (Membership, Developing spiritual growth habits, Ministry, or Mission/Evangelism)