

Easter Time!

By Rev. Julia Schwert

This month people will be celebrating Easter: the most important day for all Christians. This is the day that the door was opened for all mankind giving us direct access to our God and our Creator.

Knowing what God did for us through Jesus, who willingly came and fulfilled His God-purpose, makes Easter an exciting time for us as we recall that first Easter Sunday morning. What a shock to the human flesh who thought all hope was gone, and they felt defeated and lost. **But God . . .** showed Himself faithful! What He had been speaking for a long, long time truly came to pass. I can only imagine that many of the people of that day (and maybe even some of the disciples) thought, "Why did I doubt God? Why did I feel so upset and disappointed? I knew what God said. I knew what Jesus said, but yet I doubted! Why didn't I believe?" **But God . . .** did not get nervous! He did not change His mind!

Some people get excited because it means a day off work/school or maybe they go shopping to prepare for celebrating Easter. There is nothing wrong with that; however, if we put material possessions as our main focus . . . that is wrong. **God needs** to be our main focus. That is the only way we really prove to Him that we love Him. When we are found living every day like Jesus lived every day, we are making our Father beam! Jesus not only sacrificed His life for us upon the cross; Jesus also sacrificed His life every day so that God's purpose would be performed in His earthly life. That is what we must do every day.

I just read in Luke 1:32-33 *"He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever and of his kingdom there shall be no end."* These are some of the words the angel shared with Mary. It was prophesied that God would give him the throne of David, Jesus would reign for ever, and his kingdom would have no end. When we accept what Jesus did for us by asking Him to forgive us and become the Lord of our individual life, we have entered that same kingdom that has no end!

This is why Easter is important to born-again Christians! When we identify with Jesus, His resurrection has also become ours! Jesus entered into the spirit world of no end when He was resurrected. We, as well, entered the same spirit world of no end when we identified with Him. What happened on that first Easter day is to be celebrated every day by Christians.

Let us remember every day the privilege we have available to us: *"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."*
– Hebrews 4:14-16

Rejoice this Easter! Rejoice everyday as you celebrate your new birth in God! Your new birth means . . . you have direct access to our Father, you have entered the spirit world of no end, and you can boldly come to the throne of grace and find mercy. Yes, mercy is only a prayer away. Oh, the great love God extended to us on that first Easter day!