

Raised With Christ Col. 3:1-17

Introduction:

A. The world calls next Sunday "Easter"

1. One of two great "holy days" in the "Christian Calendar" first adopted by the Catholic church.

2. "Easter" once in King James Version (Act 12:4) – "Passover" every other time (28).

3. Every Lord's Day should be an observance of His resurrection – not just once a year.

B. The life of a faithful Christian is a celebration of the Resurrection.

1. It begins with our spiritual death, burial and resurrection (Col. 2:12, 13; Rom. 6:4; cf. 1 Pet 3:21)

2. It continues with a lifestyle reflecting our resurrection with Christ

3. "If ye then be risen with Christ – Seek, Put, Let.

Discussion:

I. "If then you were raised with Christ,," Seek Things Above. (Col. 3:1-4)

A. By seeking things above we show our faith in His resurrection.

1. We recognize that He is at God's right hand (v. 1)

2. We recognize His authority from there (Col. 3:17).

3. We recognize that our citizenship is there (Phil. 3:20-21)

B. By setting our affection on things above, we make life's choices accordingly.

1. Choice of education— 1st its effect on goal, then other considerations.

2. Choice of vocation— 1st its effect on goal, then pay, working conditions, etc.

3. Choice of mates — 1st its effect on goal, then looks, charm, etc.

4. Guidance for our children— 1st its effect on goal, then other matters.

II. "If then you were raised with Christ,," Put ...

A. To Death Earthly Sins. (Col. 3:5-7)

B. Off the Old Man with his deeds. (Col. 3:8-9).

1. The old man had a filthy heart — "Anger, wrath, malice..."

2. The old man had a filthy mouth— "Blasphemy, language, lying. (cf. Mt. 12:34).

C. On the New Man with His deeds. (Col. 3:10-14).

III. "If then you were raised with Christ,," Let ...

A. "...the peace of God rule (umpire) in your hearts". (Col. 3:15)

1. Peace that only Christ can give. (John 14:27, John 16:33)

a. World gives peace that is fragile, uncertain, often unholy.

b. Lord gives peace that is pure, sure and steadfast.

2. Peace that passes understanding. (Phil. 4:6-9).

3. Peace that comes from faith in Him. (John 14:1).

B. "The Word of Christ dwell in you richly..." (v. 16).

1. Enables on to teach and admonish.

2. Encourages one to sing — not play instrument.

3. Enables one to do all things in name of Christ. (v. 17).

Conclusion:

A. If you have not been scripturally baptized, you are still dead in sin, not risen.

B. If you have been raised, then make the effort to live accordingly.