

**What does Easter have to do with me?**  
**Ephesians 4:32 - 5:1-2**  
**Easter Sunday a.m. 4/19/2017**

❖ Ask yourself this question

❖ **What does Easter have to do with me?**

- **Is Easter a religious event?** “I’m not religious.”
- **Is Easter a family event?** “It has not been part of my family.”
- **Is Easter a holiday event?** “My kids enjoy the eggs and the rabbits.”

❖ **You may know the story of the Cross and the resurrection, but do you know how it relates to you?**

■ **Jesus Loves You (Ephesians 5:2a)**

❖ This love began with His Father

- **God proved He loved us by having His Son die for sinners**

**Romans 5:8 (NKJV)**

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**John 3:16** tells of the quality of God’s love, not the quantity of His love

*For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.*

❖ **It is not how much God loved us, but how He loved us**

**1 John 4:10 (NKJV)**

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

❖ **We could never love God enough for Him to send His only Son to the cross?**

## ■ Jesus Surrendered His life for You (Ephesians 5:2b)

❖ Jesus gave, surrendered His life, to be beaten, mocked and crucified

⊗ He willingly turned His life over to the custody of authorities for a trial that already had a decision

- Jesus was willing to lay down His life for the sheep

## John 10:11-15

- Jesus did not resist arrest when the soldiers came for Him

## John 18:2-12

- Jesus could have called for supernatural help

## Matthew 26:53 (NKJV)

Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?

❖ A Roman legion was approximately 5,000 soldiers **60,000 angels**

⊗ One angel could have done the job

- Jesus initiated the surrendering of Himself

## 1 Timothy 2:6

Who gave **Himself** a ransom for all

## Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave **Himself** for me.

## ■ Jesus took Your Place on the Cross (Ephesians 5:2c)

✝ Jesus gave Himself **for** us, He died in our place

✝ We could not die for our sins

✝ We could never be a sacrifice for our sins

✝ Jesus took our place to satisfy the wrath of God

## 1 John 4:10 (NKJV)

In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

✪ **Jesus death was a sacrifice for our sins and the cross was the place of that sacrifice**

- ❖ Jesus sacrifice was a well pleasing aroma to God
- ❖ Our sin required the blood sacrifice of a sinless substitute
- ❖ Jesus offered Himself to God as a full payment for the debt of our sin

■ **The resurrection was the proof our sins can be forgiven**

## 1 Corinthians 15:17 (NKJV)

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

### H. E. Guillebaud

“A dead Christ would be no Savior, therefore the resurrection is the completion and evidence of the atonement.”

**forgave** - to pardon, show forgiveness

✪ **Our sins are removed, never to be brought up to us by God again**

✪ **God's forgiveness is in Christ. There is no other way. He was the only perfect Lamb.**

## Close

- ❖ Why do you believe you will go to heaven when you die?
  - ✚ I'm a member of a church
  - ✚ I was baptized when I was an infant, child or adult
  - ✚ I made a decision, said a prayer, filled out a card
  - ✚ My emotions were stirred at church
  - ✚ My mom said that I am a Christian