

When God Gets Personal with my Sin

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Scripture

1 Cor. 15

²⁰But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

⁴⁰There are also heavenly bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the heavenly bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. ⁴¹The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.

⁴²So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"^[e]; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven. ⁴⁸As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we^[f] bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

⁵⁰I declare to you, brothers, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed— ⁵²in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. ⁵³For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. ⁵⁴When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory."^[g]

⁵⁵"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"^[h] ⁵⁶The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. ⁵⁷But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Opening Question

Share your name and your favorite Easter memory.

What does Easter mean to you?

Digging for Truth

1. Les talked about the possibility of life without sin having entered into history. Sin brought death. What do you think it would be like for there to be no death on earth?
2. Some say that it's not fair for sin to enter the world through one man, but neither is it fair for one man to bear the cost of our sin. Why do you think Jesus was willing to go to the cross for you?
3. Life changing lesson #1 is "Every person who has ever lived has been affected by sin." Read Romans 3:23. What
4. 2 Cor 5:21 "God made Him who knew no sin to become sin on our behalf." Why do you think Jesus had to be sinless in order to die for our sins?
5. Ephesians 2:13 says "because of Jesus you who were far away have been brought near." Lesson #2 says "God has provided a way out of a world polluted by sin." Why is death a gracious act on God's part?
6. The scripture for today makes it clear that as our bodies are now tainted by sin, we can't enter heaven in this form. There has to be transformation. Why do you think this must be the case?
7. Lesson #3 states, "Our imperfection can be transformed by the perfection of Jesus." When Christ comes into our lives, we have a seed of perfection that will grow into reality in heaven. We are planting a seed on earth that determines what comes forth in eternity. How can we plant that seed here on earth?
8. Many shared dates that Christ changed their lives. What date did Jesus walk into your life? What brought you to that point in life?

Closing Thought

The first Easter was a pivotal point in the history of mankind. What does God want us to do about that?