

Why Easter

Personally I would be more comfortable if the Sunday in which we celebrate Christ's rising from the dead was called Resurrection Sunday. Easter is the one day in the year in which, to some extent, the world around remembers Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead. Actually Christians celebrate Christ's resurrection on Sunday every week. That is why it is alternately called "The Lord's Day."

Since man rebelled against God in the garden of Eden, God had promised a great deliverer. This deliverer would free man from guilt for rebellion and the spirit of rebellion against God's authority.

The promised deliverer would have to deal with two problems. Man's rebellion brings down God's judgment on the rebel - since God made and owns both the world and its resources, rebellion is treason. Beyond that, using the resources God gives for anything but what God gave them for is theft. Failing at any point to sacrifice yourself and your interests to do good to others is also rebelling against God's purpose for man.

The deliverer would also have to deal with the heart of man which is rebellious by nature. Christ's resurrection is a public demonstration that He is the fulfillment of God's promise for a deliverer. He died on the cross under God's justice for man's rebellion and rebellious acts. The resurrection tells us that God accepted His sacrifice on behalf of those who trust and obey Christ.

The living Christ makes the same power available to give us new life and be able to become the people He has called us to be. Easter is more than remembering a past religious event. The resurrection confirms God's promise of deliverance. Easter is looking forward to the day when those who trust and obey Christ will rise to live eternally with Him.