

Easter 2023

BIG IDEA: Easter is a celebration of what "that one guy", <u>Jesus</u>, did to fix all "that one guy", <u>Adam</u>, did.

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned.

But there is a great difference between Adam's sin and God's gracious gift. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ.

Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous.

So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:12, 15, 18-19, 21 (NLT)

Inheritance from Adam:

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For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23 (NLT)

Inheritance from Jesus:

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Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.

1 Corinthians 15:22 (NLT)

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and those who live and believe in me will never die."

John 11:25-26 (GNT)

"...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one <u>confesses</u> and is saved."

Romans 10:9-10 (ESV)

Discussion Questions

- 1. How does the truth of Christ's resurrection empower us to live a life that pleases God? In what ways do we still struggle with sin, and how can we lean on Christ's resurrection power to overcome it? What practical steps can we take to walk in the fullness of God's grace and love each day?
- 2. Where does your hope lie? Do you believe that in Jesus we will rise again?
- 3. Dying with Christ means we let go of the payments of sin. Jesus paid it off for us. Have you died with Christ so you can live in freedom? What's preventing you from receiving Jesus' gift of canceled debt today?

Recommended Resources

- The Problem of Jesus, by Mark Clark
- Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name, by Max Lucado
- The Case for Christ, by Lee Strobel
- The Resurrection of the Son of God, by N.T. Wright
- The Bedrock of Christianity, by Justin Bass

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Inheritance from Adam:

- SIN.
- SEPARATION.
- <u>DEATH</u>.

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 6:23 (NLT)

Inheritance from Jesus:

- FORGIVENESS.
- RELATIONSHIP.
- NEW LIFE.

Just as everyone dies because we all belong to Adam, everyone who belongs to Christ will be given new life.

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Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me will live, even though they die; and those who live and believe in me will never die."

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(NLT) New Living Translation

(GNT) Good News Translation

(ESV) English Standard Version