

“What About 'Easter'?”

Luke 24:1-9

Introduction

- I. Around the globe, many people celebrate “Easter” as religious observance of the resurrection of Christ.
- II. This began years ago when the Roman Catholic Church decided to mix religious matters with pagan matters (“Eastra”-false goddess of Spring).
- III. For the Christian, what should he do about Easter?

Discussion

- I. First of all, the word “Easter” appears only one time in the King James Version of the Bible (Acts 12:1-4).
 - A. This is a mistranslation of the word that should denote the “Passover” (Matt. 26:2; Mark 14:1).
 - B. Neither Herod, nor first century Christians observed the modern day “Easter”.
 - C. The observance of the “Passover” is something that is not authorized under the New Testament (Col. 3:17).
- II. Do Christians not think that it is important to remember Christ's resurrection?
 - A. The resurrection of Jesus is the pivotal truth on which the entirety of Christianity stands (1 Cor. 15:13-21).
 - B. It is by His resurrection that Jesus is proven to be the Son of God (Rom. 1:4).
 - C. Without the resurrection of Jesus, we have no salvation, no assurance of our resurrections, and only destruction after Judgment (Rom. 4:25; 1 Pet. 3:21; 1 Cor. 6:14; 2 Cor. 4:14; Rom. 8:11).
 - D. Christians remember Christ's resurrection each Lord's Day in worship (1 Cor. 11:22-26; Rev. 1:18).
- III. What about the secular aspects of “Easter”?
 - A. There are different “holidays” that are observed in a secular way.
 - B. It is not wrong to be out of school or off from work on these days.
 - C. It is not wrong to buy new clothes and wear them.
 - D. It is not wrong to give gifts of chocolate, hunt eggs, etc.
 - E. It becomes wrong when we start to observe Easter from a religious perspective.
 1. This Lord's Day is no more important than any other Lord's Day (Rev. 1:10).
 2. Our attendance should not be demonstrated only on “holidays”.
 3. Scruples are of no consequence unless they are bound upon another (1 Cor. 10:25-27; Rom. 14:22; cf. 1 Cor. 8:7).

Conclusion

- I. A Christian should not be led into believing that “Easter” is something that should be celebrated religiously.
- II. We are blessed to reflect on our Lord's resurrection when we partake of The Lord's Supper.
- III. As far as the secular observance, it is in the realm of scruples.