

April – From the Pastor’s Desk

2011

Easter has long been my favorite day of the year. I always look forward to the opportunity to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It’s a great day of celebration and joy. It’s a reminder of God’s love for us. It demonstrates Jesus’ power over sin and death. It proclaims our salvation and eternal life in a powerful way.

This year waiting for Easter involves a longer than usual wait. It takes us all of the way to the end of April. Yet, as I think about that, I realize that it is not nearly as long as the people of Israel had to wait. They waited centuries for a Savior and Messiah to come. They were always on the lookout for the one sent from God.

Unfortunately, many of them missed His arrival. They turned their back on the Savior. They flogged the Messiah. They crucified the Son of God. They rejected Jesus Christ. They completely missed out on the very one they had been looking and longing for.

The Gospel writers wanted to make sure that we didn’t miss out on the one who died in our place. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John vividly capture the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. They paint a picture of the wisdom of his teachings, the power of his healings, and the depth of his love and compassion.

In all of this, each writer places a strong emphasis on the last week, the crucifixion, the death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The four Gospel writers combine for 89 chapters of Jesus life and ministry. Of these 89 chapters, 29 chapters focus on the last week, crucifixion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Fully one-third of the Gospels point us the cross and resurrection – the Easter celebration. They wanted to make sure that we didn’t miss out on the significance of this event. Jesus died and rose again, so that we might experience forgiveness and eternal life.

There are many other things in life that can grab our attention. We can get pulled in many different directions. Let us never let these things cause us to forget the importance of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Let us never forget the impact of Easter on our daily life. Let us celebrate Easter every day.

For a great reminder: Matthew 21-28; Mark 11-16; Luke 19-24; John 12-21.

He is risen!

Pastor Scott