

North Summit Church  
**Easter 2024**  
Crimson Forgiveness and White Righteousness

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Romans 4:16-25**

**16 For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. 18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE." 19 Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now as good as dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; 20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what God had promised, He was able also to perform. 22 Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. 23 Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, 24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.**

**[PRAYER]**

On this Sunday, Resurrection Sunday, we remember, and celebrate and commemorate that Jesus Christ, our Lord, rose from the dead.

And so this morning, as we celebrate Easter 2024, in the year of our Lord, I want us to think about the meaning and significance and eternal impact of this central defining moment of all human history.

- The Resurrection of Jesus Christ, is "the" single most important event in all of history. And it will remain the single most important event, for all of eternity.
- In this celebration we are declaring the beginning of New Creation that will ultimately be realized at Christ's glorious return.

**What does it mean that Jesus rose from the dead?**

- **Why is this moment in history so important?**

First, it means that Jesus has defeated death.

Meaning, death no longer has dominion over Him, and He, having ascended to the throne of heaven, seated at the right hand of the father, is now in a place where death has been utterly destroyed.

- And so today we celebrate our victorious King.
- Because if we are in Him, His victory is our victory.
- In Him, His death is our death.
- In Him, His resurrection is our resurrection.
- And In Him, His glorification, is our glorification.

On that glorious Sunday Morning, when Jesus walked out of that grave, it wasn't just the first day of the week, but it was the first day of the new world, the beginning of new creation that will be fully realized at Christ's return.

- And so on this first day of the week we worship the risen Christ.
- And we celebrate the tampling of death, under the feet of Christ.

### **Why did death need to be defeated?**

#### **Romans 3:23**

**...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,**

Our first parents, in the garden of eden were told by God, that if they eat of the tree they will surely die.

- And in their disobedience they surrendered their lives to that great enemy, death and the grave.

#### **Romans 6:23**

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

- There was a penalty owed for that rebellion. Death must be given it's due.
- But God promised He would make a way out of the grave. That the descendant of the woman would come and crush the head of the serpent.

#### **Romans 3:24**

**...being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;**

- Redemption is found in Christ and in Christ alone.
- Jesus went into that grave, conquered death, and rose on the third day, victorious over this great enemy of our souls.

- And through His sacrificial death, Christ, the very God who spoke all things into existence offered Himself as the payment for our falling short of God's glory.

### **1 Peter 3:18**

**18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;**

- This is what Christ has accomplished.
- And our text for this morning reminds us of two things,
  1. Jesus went to the cross, for our offenses, for our transgressions.
  2. And he was raised for our justification, the forgiveness of our sins

### **This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

- This is the Good News.
- Jesus has defeated death.

### **Romans 4:22**

**22 Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. 23 Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, 24 but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.**

### **How do we enter this reality?**

- We do it just like Abraham did, who even though he knew that it was impossible for him to have a son, he believed that God would do what He had promised.
- **And in the same way we enter this promise through Faith.**
- Knowing that we are completely unable to save ourselves, but trusting that Christ has done and will do what He has promised.
  - Aman - I'm trusting you with my life.
- We have no righteousness of our own, but only that which is found in Jesus Christ.
- And if we are in Christ Jesus then we are a new creation.

### **What is the prerequisite for receiving this Good News?**

- **We have to have offenses. This is the prerequisite for receiving the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**
  - You have to be a sinner.

- You have to have fallen short of the glory of God.
- “He died for OUR offenses”
- How deep do our offenses go? All the way to the grave. The deeper the offenses the greater this particular Good News is.
- Wherever transgression of God’s glory can occur then those transgressions can most certainly be our transgressions.
- Wherever sins are committed they can be our sins.
- **And this means that our Justification can occur in those very same places.**
  - This means that Resurrection can occur anywhere that death exists.
  - **Isn’t that the very meaning of Resurrection? From Death to Life**
  - **So the prerequisite for receiving the Good News, is understanding that you are dead in your trespasses and sins, and that it is only God who can raise you from the dead.**
- **This means that there is no place that this Good News that Jesus is Lord cannot reach.**
  - Because wherever you go is where you find our offenses. Where you will find my offenses. Where you will find your offenses.
  - And these offenses are everywhere, in our marriages, in our families, in our churches, in our workplace, in every nook and cranny there we find our offenses.
- **And that means that in all those nooks and crannies we will also find our justification for those offenses.**
  - Anywhere sin can go there you will also find the grace of God.
  - Anything that death can drag down into the grave, everlasting life can reach down and pull it back out again.
    - **Anything and anyone.**
- **This was God’s plan from the very beginning. That all the brokenness of this life would be reconciled to God in Christ Jesus.**

**Christ’s resurrection is the creation of the instrument of our deliverance from death.**

**2 Corinthians 5:21**

**21 He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.**

- **This means that this Good News is for you.**

- That in Christ, His righteousness is made manifest in us.

#### **Romans 6:4-7**

**4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; 7 for he who has died is freed from sin.**

- The first Adam disobeyed at a tree, and that disobedience was our disobedience.
- The second Adam, Jesus, obeyed on a tree, and that obedience is now our obedience.
  - And so we follow Jesus into the grave and we too our raised with Christ to Resurrection life.
- **Baptisms Next Week**

**This is the pattern of the Gospel.**

- Death and Resurrection
- Rebellion and Reconciliation
- Disease and Decay, and then Newness of Life
- The Pattern is Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday.
- **Crimson Forgiveness and White Righteousness**

**On that glorious Sunday morning, when Christ stepped out of the grave, something new was made manifest through the completed work of Christ.**

- **And that new thing was the possibility of New Birth, of New Life in Christ.**
- Our text reminds us that Christ went to the cross for our offenses, and was raised for our justification.
  - **If you don't think God can forgive your offenses then you don't understand Easter.**

#### **Romans 8:1**

**Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

- This means that your sins, your failings, your brokenness, no matter how bad they are, are not red-er than the crimson blood of Jesus Christ.
  - It is Crimson Forgiveness.

- In Christ, there is now no condemnation, and that is really Good News.
  - This is the type of news that allows us to simply walk in the Righteousness of Christ.
- **Crimson Forgiveness and White Righteousness**

### **Isaiah 1:18**

**"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.**

### **How then shall we live?**

- **As those who have been made new in Christ.**

### **Ephesians 5:1-2**

**1 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; 2 and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.**

- **Receive the forgiveness of Christ. And Rejoice in it.**
- **Live in the righteousness and freedom of Christ.**
- **Imitate God: Extend this same forgiveness to others.**
- **Walk in Love, put away selfishness and vain conceit.**
- **Give Christ everything that he purchased on the Cross.**
  - Put away sin so that Christ can be your all in all.

### **Communion:**

We gather together every week to remember the Gospel through participation in Christ through the Lord's Table.

- What we celebrate today specifically, we celebrate every week generally.
- Each week we come to the altar.

### **Matthew 26:26-29**

**26 While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 29 "But I**

**say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."**

**Come, and welcome to Jesus Christ.**

**And now, may the God of peace,  
who brought back again from the dead our Lord Jesus,  
equip you with all you need for doing his will.  
May he produce in you,  
through the power of Jesus Christ,  
all this is pleasing to him.  
To him be glory forever and ever. Amen.**