

PULPIT MINISTRY APRIL 2009 (Gospel Emphasis Month)

Theme: Alive Together With Christ

MORNING WORSHIP - Palm Sunday (Baptismal service)

5 April 2009

Title: **"Made us Alive together in Christ"**

Text: **Ephesians 2:1-9**

(I) THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

1. Located in the Doctrine of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ

- a) Jesus as the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world
- b) He was the sacrificial lamb that was slain to take away our sins
- c) He was resurrected from the dead as His display of triumph over sin and Satan

2. Death of Jesus Foretold

*"From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day." **Matthew 16:21***

3. Resurrection of Jesus Fulfilled

*"But the angel answered and said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.'" **Matthew 28:5-6***

(II) THE THEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

1. Taught by the apostle Paul

- a) As part of his theological system
- b) As part of the gospel he espoused

2. Applied in the context of Salvation

*"And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins... But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)" **Ephesians 2:1, 4-5***

- a) The reality of being spiritually dead

Because of trespasses and sins

- b) The raising of the spiritually dead
 - i) Made alive
 - ii) Made alive together with Christ

- c) The rationale behind God's work of raising the spiritually dead
 - i) Because of God's rich mercy
 - ii) Because of His great love
 - iii) Because of His grace

- d) The result of the application of God's grace
 - i) Delivered from trespasses and sins
 - ii) Given salvation

(III) THE PERSONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

- 1. Personal understanding of the doctrine of being raised with Christ**
- 2. Personal experience of receiving Jesus as Saviour**
- 3. Personal application of living as one who has been raised with Christ from the dead**