

RISE

WHY IS EASTER SO IMPORTANT?

CHRISTMAS OR
EASTER WHICH ONE IS
MORE SIGNIFICANT?

RISE WITH HIM

THE WAY UP IS TO
HUMBLE OURSELVES
DAILY IN EXTREME
DEVOTION

STAYING HIGH

FASHION
FORWARD

THIS CAN BE USED AS A BIBLE STUDY MATERIAL AND
FOR FAMILY DISCUSSION THIS EASTER SEASON

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WHY IS EASTER SO IMPORTANT?

I was in a group the other time when I asked the question: "Christmas or Easter, which one should be the most significant?"



EASTER OR CHRISTMAS?

People on the group argued that both should be equally significant and from a number people's response, it appeared many preferred Christmas over Easter. The reasons are obvious, Christmas happens during the festive period of the year. Imagine a house twinkling with lights, stockings filled with gifts and hung with care, St. Nickolas is assumed to have taken flight on his reindeer and while little children are the ones expecting Christmas pleasant surprises, older folks are not done hoping too. But what about Easter?

Do we regard it less because it is marked with the dying of Jesus; blood, sweat, tears, denial, betrayal and as a matter of fact, the worse type of death in human history? What if these same sets of events makes Easter the most remarkable event in human history; far beyond the merrymaking of Christmas?

In the scope of the question: "which is more significant, Easter or Christmas?" maybe we can gather clue from the wisest man in the Bible :

"the day of death better than the day of birth" Ecclesiastes 7:1b (NIV)

"Better is the end of a thing than the beginning thereof" - Ecclesiastes 7:8

Yes, Easter is a time of sorrow and death. Yet, the wise man retort again:

"a sad face is good for the heart." Ecclesiastes 7:3b (NIV)

"The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning" Ecclesiastes 7:4a (NIV)

Importance of Bible Based Writings such as this

Studies like this is important to correct some misunderstanding about our Christian faith. In conversation with many people who are not clear about our Christian experience, there have been claims to things slavery, occultism, idolatry, etc being promoted by the Bible. Even the death on the cross has been misunderstood by many.





Christmas had all the elements of Easter in it as God did not mince words when he was announcing the name of baby Jesus as a matter of dealing with a core issue.

“...AND YOU SHALL CALL HIS NAME JESUS, FOR HE SHALL TAKE AWAY THE SINS OF MY PEOPLE” (MATTHEW 1:21B)



CHRISTMAS HAD POINTERS TO EASTER

While it is utterly wrong to trivialize any event in the Bible especially the celebratory birth of Jesus Christ, the saviour of the world, there was no mistaking that God was heading somewhere with the birth of Jesus Christ. He had a matter to deal with once and for all. On Christmas day, He announced, "Call His name Jesus, for He shall take away the sins of my people (Matthew 1:21b)

So while Christmas is absolutely symbolic, it appears to be a process leading up to the final wrap of a plan that didn't just start with the birth of Jesus but that which had occurred since the beginning when man first sinned.

God wanted to deal with the issue of sin once and for all and the way out had to end in the death of His only begotten son; for by Law without cleanses with blood there is no forgiveness (Hebrews 9:22). To me, that end, that death on the cross, appears a lot more profound than any other event in human history.

Easter is further significant because it shows that the way God thinks and how he executes His plans is way different from ours (Isaiah 55:8-9)

and no other event in the Bible captures the power and grace of God and His careful planning, strategy and execution than the death of Christ on the cross. Even the devil didn't know it was coming (1 Corinthians 2:8).

So we need to take seasons like this to review the accuracy of scriptures. Many of the events in the Old Testaments are pointers, codes or indicators of bringing us to the full requirements of God and to fully show us that we cannot save ourselves. The ultimate salvation of our soul is embedded in a calvary process. The Old Testament is an account of the era of Law, a careful presentation of human shortcoming and how we cannot fulfill the requirement of the God's Law.

The New Testament ushers in an era of Grace where God comes to perfect all that he began to do and to present us with the free gift of salvation. This Easter season, is a pinnacle moment of God's love. It is a tipping point in Bible record and appears to be very important for us to recognize.





"SURELY HE HATH BORNE OUR GRIEFS, AND CARRIED OUR SORROWS: YET WE DID ESTEEM HIM STRICKEN, SMITTEN OF GOD, AND AFFLICTED." (ISAIAH 53:4)

That Christ (God's very image) died on the cross like an ordinary man was the only way to demonstrate true salvation to mortals like myself and you.



THE WAGES OF SIN HAD TO BE PAID FOR

Indeed, God gave us the power to make choices. The choices we make however sometimes contradict His will and desires. Since Adam and Eve contradicted God's will in the garden of Eden by eating the fruit from the tree of Good and evil. And God has made it clear that if we sin, the penalty is death (Genesis 2:15-16). God honors his word more than his name (Psalm 138:2).

God decided to come to our rescue knowing fully well that the requirement of sin remission cannot be fulfilled by ourselves. God chose to come down to dwell with us and to deal with the issue of sin (and Satan the trickster) once and for all.

FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN, imagine it like a father who sets the rule in the house for his children and having found that they cannot fulfil the rule, decided to pay the price for anyone who broke the rule so that by obtaining the gift of the price, everyone has automatically been forgiven of breaking the rule. That way, it appears everyone has fulfilled the requirement just by what the father did. After all the father set the rule.

God gave us will and the power of choice so that we can choose life over death as we receive the free gift of what he already did for us culminating in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Of a truth, sin had to be first dealt with. God had to first fulfill the penalty of sin and death. Christ was the perfect sacrifice.

God came and intervened in the situations of humanity and declared us free once and for all. God atoned for us. He presented us with a free gift and a clean slate.

"For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:23 (KJV)

He fulfilled the requirement of the law by choosing to die for us. His love and mercy prevailed.

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8 (NIV)

While the first and most important objective of Christ dying was for our sins' remission and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, many do not know that the forgiveness of sins is not the end of the story.

The benefits of the cross are much more. Not only has Jesus freed us from all condemnation, we have a whole new identity (2 Corinthians 5:17). We obtain the power to become true children of God (John 1:12).





NOTHING
CAN
SEPARATE
US FROM
GOD'S
LOVE

READ: Romans 8:31-39





THERE IS NO GREATER LOVE THAN TO LAY
DOWN ONE'S LIFE FOR ONE'S FRIENDS.
(JOHN 15:13)

Easter is important because it was a pinnacle moment of God's love. God gave his best so that we can RISE. Sin can no longer have dominion.



A PINNACLE MOMENT OF LOVE AND GRACE

To gain a clear understanding of God's attitude toward sin, we only must consider the purpose of Christ's death. The Scripture says, "Without shedding of blood there is no remission" (Hebrews 9:22). There can be no forgiveness of sin unless our debt has been paid. Through the death on the cross, God's love is demonstrated to humanity as he showed us mercy and compassion.

Sometimes, when we look out upon the world of nature; water, air, plants and animals, we see the provisions and plans made for our happiness. We discover a revelation of God's love. Yet as wonderful as nature can be in revealing divine love, nothing is comparable to the sacrifice of Calvary. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

In the cross we see the way to victory. God makes it plain that our carnal nature was dealt with at the cross, so that in our standing in Christ this carnal nature has no more power over us. We are told that our "old man was crucified with Him" (Romans 6:6) and that we do not need to serve sin any longer.

The Scripture promises that sin shall no longer have dominion over us (Romans 6:14). In the cross there is power to overcome Satan and the temptations of life - the keys have been given to us. Satan was defeated at the cross.

Through the death of Christ, God made provisions for our shortcoming so that as Christ died on the cross and resurrected on the third day, we too can RISE. But you have to believe this message of the gospel.





Mercy that covers the past and the grace for a glorious future



NOT THAT CHALLENGES WILL NOT CONTINUE TO COME OUR WAY; NOT THAT WE WILL NOT BE TEMPTED TO SIN...BUT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE POWER TO RISE ABOVE IT ALL IN VICTORY. THAT POWER IS THE POWER OF THE CROSS.

"In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross." Colossians 2:15 NLT

the death of Christ ushered in an era of Grace (this is how to fulfill all requirements) where we now live and operate by the power of the Holy Spirit that works in us when we believe.

While the devil tempted Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden and holding them spell bound, generations to generations fell to His whims and caprices. Man is made in God's image (Genesis 1:27), full of power to overcome the enemy, but everytime we make wrong choices, we fall to the hands of the devil and lose our position of authority and power. Although we fall short, we can obtain the free gift of salvation presented to us this Easter season by allowing the the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts.

You have to believe what has been done for you on the cross so that you can rise.

For the grace of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people." Titus 2:11 (NLT)

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9 (KJV)

God is held by his own word also (Psalm 138:2) and will punish our sins when we fall short. From all the sacrifices made in the Old Testaments, to all the judges, Kings and prophets that God used to point us to the essence of the law (thou shall not's),

"For with the heart man believes unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:10 (NKJV)

"in Whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace" Ephesians 1:7 (NKJV)





Believe. RISE.

We need to believe and abide by the power of the cross to give us daily victory. We cannot do it by our won effort. Only God can do it. A victorious daily life is possible. Don't let Satan tell you it is not. Out of your ashes, you can RISE. Out of darkness, you can RISE into the light and radiance of God's glory.

The cross of Christ is not only the basis of our peace and hope—but also the means of our eternal salvation. The goal of the cross is not only a full and free pardon, but a changed life, lived in fellowship with God. Having covered for our sins, Christ presented a glorious future ahead of us not only in eternity but from the moment we believe and are changed.

Eternal life is not just about Heaven; it starts as soon as you accept Christ. Jesus' purpose was to preach and to heal—and now, so is ours too. The source of His power to do these things was the Holy Spirit, and you have been given the same Holy Spirit that lived in Jesus (Romans 8:11).

The power of the cross is a major underlying factor and a key winning factor for us – and it is applicable both in our lives and in our everyday businesses.

"Through the death of Christ, God made provisions for our shortcoming so that as Christ died on the cross and ressurected on the third day, we too can RISE."

MAKE THESE DECLARATIONS

"In my career, I experience the power of the cross, the power of the Resurrection. In my everyday ordinary life, I experience the power of the cross, I experience the Power of Resurrection. In my businesses, I experience the power of the cross, I experience the Power of Resurrection."

Keep winning! This is the season to experience the power of Resurrection. RISE.

Calvary is where God changed everything as the divine exchange occurred. The precious Lamb of God was slain, once and for all. Through this we can enter the fullness of all God has in store for us. The walls and the barriers were broken down. We now have access to God; Sin can no longer hold us. The veil has been taken away (Matthew 27:51). RISE.





Closing remarks

As you would have come to find out, Easter deserves the same (or even greater) significance and recognition as Christmas. The very foundation of our Christian faith revolves around the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ on the cross. And this is what we celebrate this Easter. Easter validates and authenticates our Christian experience because if Christ had not been raised from death, our faith is futile and we will continue to live under the tyranny of sin (1 Corinthians 15:17).

Although there are arguments about whether a particular time in April is the correct date of this Biblical event, what is important to uphold is the undeniable fact that Jesus Christ died and resurrected. And the very same spirit that raised Christ from the dead now operates in us (Romans 8:11).

No other person in the entire human history promised that he/she was going to die and resurrect on the third day and fulfilled it exactly as promised except for Christ Jesus.

As you believe in your heart that Jesus Christ is Lord and confess the unwaivering truth, you appropriate the power that broke the chains of hell. You live a victorious life. Upward and onward. RISE.

LIVE FOR HIM EVERYDAY

God's mercy and grace can only be appropriated as we live this experience of the cross daily. This is what Paul meant in Galatians 2:20: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." There is no sin that Christ cannot forgive. No struggles and battles that we will face in future that has not already been won.

No other person in the entire human history promised that he/she was going to die and resurrect on the third day and fulfilled it exactly as promised except for Christ Jesus.





1. RISE because Christ died on the cross to cancel the tyranny of sin and death that you carry.

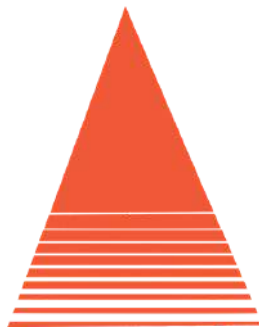
2. RISE because God gave His best to secure the best for our future and ultimate destiny. The only begotten of the father chose to give himself once and for ALL. He took the FALL.





RISE WITH HIM

Humble yourself under the mighty hand of
God and He will lift you up.





RISE WITH HIM >>>

The way up is to humble ourselves at the foot of the cross daily in extreme devotion and worship to the saving king.

Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. 1 Peter 5:6-8 (NIV)

What God requires of us is extreme devotion. A sold-out life, lived 100% for the master's use.

As we have discussed earlier, what God require of us is absolute worship and obedience to His commandments. Knowing fully well that we cannot fulfill of God's requirement, the first and most important place to start is to believe His words and to humble ourselves before God's mighty hand.

His words are our guiding pillars and the truth He wants us to live by. As we bring ourselves in humility to the truth of GOD's word, acknowledging Him in our daily words and conduct, God's mighty hand will lift us up. Scriptures made it clear that those of us that wait upon the Lord shall mount up with wings are eagles (Isaiah 40:31). RISE.

Extreme devotion is saying: "God I belong to you even today, even right now" In literal terms it means saying to God every morning, "I am yours. Use me. I long to know your heart in every matter. I want to be in perfect communion with you." Extreme devotion is living by the scripture that says: "My Old life is dead, I now live a new one hid in Christ, Christ in God" (Col 3:3). I want my everyday ordinary life to be a sacrificial offering and an instrument of service unto you. Just to be close to you (Romans 12:1-2 MSG). Just to be like you."

By understanding the work Christ did on the cross, believing and living by the Calvary experience daily, we transition to God's kingdom where the Holy Spirit continues to connect with our spirit; bringing power and affirming our identity as God's chosen one.

Our lines of thought, way of operating and approach to situations and circumstances must be kingdom based - a mindset that victory has already been won.

We live in full comprehension of the cancellation (of our sins) and exchange (of His only son for us) when we maintain a lifestyle of worship and extreme devotion to the one who paid it all. The power of the resurrection can come alive; working in us daily. 1 Corinthians 6:14 says "And God will raise us from the dead by his power, just as he raised our Lord from the dead." This is the daily victory over sin and Satan and a guarantee of a glorious destiny here on earth and in heaven.





RISE WITH HIM >>> In Extreme Devotion

Live Holy. Live in Righteousness. Obey God. Worship. Worship at the feet of the one who washed other's feet. Worship the one who didn't have anything and even a tomb was borrowed to bury him but who now rose to the ownership of everything in the universe, seen and unseen.

Every time we do this, devoting our life and all to him, worshiping and surrendering to God, we appropriate His effective working power and splendour across all humanity. We maintain our salvation as a proportionality of our devotion, commitment and daily surrender to God. We are made free from sin, shame, fear, reproach and we continue to live a triumphant life, daily.

Yes, a life of extreme devotion doesn't equate to a boring life at all. It is quiet the opposite. Imagine what it means to be in 100% sync with the One that holds all things in His hands. Imagine what it means for you to commune and know the heart of the One who holds eternity right in his hands. How do you think you will live and operate when you already have a view of what is to come? That is exactly what extreme devotion does.

Being lifted up by the mighty hand of God makes you look like a cheat before ordinary people. "And this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith" (1John 5:4b). Extreme devotion. Worship. That should be our response. It is the Power of the Cross. RISE.





Fashion Forward>>>

STAYING HIGH FOR THE MOST HIGH^^

Introducing Govibly RISE^

"Govibly RISE^ product is probably one of our most detailed product ever built; with the powerful message of the cross behind it. It will cause you to RISE"

- Oluwaseun Oyeniran,
Govibly Founder & Creative Director

RISE[^] 



RISE[^]

Design and production specs

All-New Sport Grey Finishing

This production features our exclusive Sport Grey Sweatshirt finishing.

- 8.0 oz., 50/50 cotton/polyester, Pre-shrunk, Classic fit, Reduced pilling and softer air-jet spun yarn
- 1x1 athletic rib knit collar, cuffs and waistband, with spandex
- Double-needle stitched collar, shoulders, armholes, cuffs and waistband

Type-centric designs system

In the realm of simplicity, typographic designs have become prominent. While typography and text have been common in garment production, what is now new is using it as an illustration or some other design elements. This production features typographic illustration at its best.

Custom design elements

Govibly founder and design director spent extra time carving this exclusive element. The red colour can be taken as a mark of the blood of Christ, a symbol of the cross and all that grace brought to us. the shape is an arrow pointing in the upward direction to indicate RISE - upward motion.

Custom Govibly brand logo as back label

A seal of authenticity, grace and everything good vibes :)



As you would have found with us, at Govibly, we pay extreme attention to details in our design, production process and in fact, everything that we do.

More at www.govibly.com



THANK YOU FOR READING!



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RISE



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