

FROM THE PASTOR

Each week Pastor Parker includes a baseline summary of his message in the Church's printed Bulletin. The purpose of this page is to provide an electronic copy of this summary. We hope these words will witness to you at home as they do from the pulpit.

March 23, 2008

Easter! For many people, Easter is simply a celebration of spring and the passing of winter. It is a time to "dress up" in brightly colored clothes, hunt Easter eggs, and gather with family and friends... to enjoy the "rebirth" of nature as barren trees begin to put forth new leaves and flowers begin to bloom. It is a time of dogwood trees and redbuds, of robins and sparrows, and a time for renewed hope and promise. It is all of this...but so much more. For believers, it is the day we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior! This truth...the death and resurrection of Christ...is the very foundation of our faith.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 NKJV

Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you - unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

Wearing new clothes and hunting Easter eggs is fun...and joining with family and friends to celebrate the coming of spring can be enjoyable...but the greatest joy comes from knowing Jesus Christ and experiencing the "rebirth" only He can bring into a person's life. A life that is barren and without hope is reborn with promise and purpose for living.

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; **the old has gone, the new has come!**

Amazing!