

Hello Social Media friends!

Thank you for watching this video. Today I want to tell you why I celebrate Easter. But in order to do that, I need to start at the beginning.

Creation:

The bible says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

The bible says that by faith we have come to understand that the universe was created by the word of God. All things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And everything God made, was good.

Fall:

So, with all the beauty of God's creation, why is there so much brokenness in our world, and in our lives?

All of creation was made by God and was designed to work in harmony with Him. The problem is that we want to go our own way, do what we want to do, in rebellion to God. The bible calls this sin. Sin has affected all of creation, bringing pride, poverty, pain, war, natural disasters, sickness and death.

Adam and Eve, the first humans, had a great relationship with God, and God provided them with everything they could ever need in a beautiful and wonderful paradise. They had access to everything the garden provided, except one tree. God said to not eat of its fruit lest you die.

Well, Adam and Eve decided to trust in themselves and others instead of God, so they ate the forbidden fruit. By doing so, they experienced guilt, shame and eventual death. Now we are all experiencing sin and darkness, and there is nothing that we can do about it. But God can.

Christmas:

The prophets foretold of a day when God would bring a rescue, a savior, to bring us out of our desperate situation. Well, just as prophesied, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came into the world to rescue people from darkness. On the night of Jesus' birth the angel proclaimed: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."

Life of Jesus:

Jesus, the Son of God and the son of man. He lived the perfect, sinless life, displaying the love of God and giving Himself to the needs of others.

The love of God is so overwhelming, so long-suffering that it chases the lost, the broken, the undeserving. No matter who you are, what you have done, no matter your nationality, your income, or your inabilities, no one is exempt from the love and forgiveness of God if they would put their trust in Him. There is no person that God is not willing to go after... and that includes you.

Cross:

Back to Jesus. He is the true light, which gives light to everyone. He had come into the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own people, and they did not receive him, in fact, they rejected him, abused him and crucified him on a cross.

The Bible says, "He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. He was pierced, wounded and crushed."

Jesus did not come just to be a good example of how to live, but he came to seek and save the lost. But in order to truly save the lost, He had to pay the penalty for the sins of the lost. He would pay this price by giving His life as a ransom for many. The innocent for the guilty.

The Bible says, "Surely he has borne OUR griefs and carried OUR sorrows; But he was pierced for OUR transgressions; he was crushed for OUR iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought US peace, and with his wounds WE are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of US ALL."

Tomb:

Jesus died for our sins, according to the Scriptures. His death paid the penalty for our sins.

But this is not the end of the story, three days later, Easter Sunday, He rose from the grave proving that He also defeated death.

The bible says, "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Why Easter?

- Easter (and all year long) is when we worship the creator of all things!
- Easter is when we admit that we have broken lives because of sin!
- Easter is when we understand that God made a way to deal with our sin problem!
- Easter is when we celebrate Jesus, who lived a perfect life, died our death, to pay our sin debt, and gives all those who would repent and believe in Him, forgiveness, freedom and eternal life!

(John 3:16-18) For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Easter is freedom for those who would receive Jesus. This is good news, but It is only good news if you receive Jesus!

So, today, right now, I plead with you, receive Jesus today!

If you message me, I would like to give you a free online booklet on how you can know and grow in Jesus. Thank you for listening to me, I am praying for you. Happy Easter!

(If someone contacts you, show them the online book on our website: buckcreekbc.com, go to RESOURCES, then go to FIRST STEPS)