



Monday Matters

April 21, 2014

This Sunday Matters

Have you ever been invited to a high school class reunion? I recently found out my high school class is having a reunion in June. I imagine they have had at least one in the past that I didn't make it to. It might have been at 10 years or 25 years. This particular invitation was for 50 years. It's really hard to believe that it was that long ago I graduated from high school. Since then I have lived in three other states and have had virtually no contact with my fellow classmates.

The reunion committee has set up a website where classmates can leave comments about their years in high school or what has been happening in their lives since graduation. In those days I was in the minority it seemed. I was and still am a Christian. It seemed that a majority of the students were Jewish. Riding the bus to school was normally packed with over 60 kids. On Jewish holidays there were 2 of us riding the bus. To some degree we were a segregated school and friendships were determined by religion. I was reading through some of the postings. One stood out. It was by Mark, one of my classmates, and I was intrigued that he had become a Messianic Jew...a follower of the Messiah, Christ.

Mark's comment about becoming a Messianic Jew sparked numerous thoughts. Depending on when you are reading this post to Monday Matters, it could be either a day before or a day after Easter. And Easter is always in the spring when we start seeing flowers pop up in the garden and leaves burst out of tree branches. It is the start of new life. When Jesus died and three days later rose from the grave He brought new life. He was dead but now He's alive.

Top on my list of favorite songs is one called "He's Alive", sung by David Phelps.

Take a moment to listen to this beautiful song about Peter, the disciple who denied he knew Jesus, now finding out that Jesus is alive. The end of the song says, **"He's alive. He's alive. He's alive and I'm forgiven. Heavens gates are open wide."**

Jesus came to earth for the Jews and the Gentiles alike. In John 3 it says God gave His Son to anyone who believes so they would not perish but have everlasting life. That "anyone" means a Jew, a Gentile or any other persuasion. Jesus came to give life, new life. Because He came back from death and is now alive, He can provide forgiveness and open heavens gates for everyone.

This Easter let us all remember the reason for this season, to celebrate the fact that Jesus is alive. Let us experience the forgiveness that Jesus can provide each and everyone one of us. Just like Mark, my classmate, it is available to all who believe.

This Sunday matters!

RN



He's Alive



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