

## EASTER 2014

After participating in the holy celebrations of the Holy Week as a whole, and especially the last three days of the holy Season of Lent – the TRIDUUM, I believe that each one of us must ask ourselves, “What do I get from this Lenten Journey?” Put in a different way this question could mean, “What is Easter to me?”

We may have many different answers or ideas about it, but the ONE important fact that stands high above all our thoughts and ideas is the fact that Jesus has died, He is risen, that He is alive and He will not die again. And He did all that to free us from sin and its eternal consequences that is eternal damnation.

So Easter means that personally we are freed, healed forgiven and restored by the saving acts of Jesus that took place on Calvary.

To understand the meaning of Easter at a personal level, let us ask ourselves the following questions or similar ones. And the Good News is Jesus, the Risen Lord, is the answer to all of them.

- Right now, what is troubling you?
- What is the heaviest burden you carry in your heart and conscience?
- What is that one thing that you are very much afraid of?
- What is that addiction or bad habit that binds you tight and doesn't give you and freedom, and you have been unable to defeat on your own?
- What is that wound that haunts you day and night?
- What is that shameful past you can't face without a crushing guilt?
- What is that terrible physical, spiritual and/or mental circumstance you live in day in and day out?
- What is that broken promise on your part when you get up in the morning that pops to your mind and dictate the course of your day and even your whole life and fill you with doom and gloom?
- Or what is that betrayal you made that doesn't give you peace of mind and that fills your nights with nightmares?

- What is that dark corner of your soul you are scared of to get into?
- What is that fear you have in your heart that doesn't allow you to trust God, yourself, or anyone else anymore?
- What is that mysterious problem in your life that you thought no one can solve and are resigned to it?
- What is that spiritual battle you thought you have already lost even before it begun?

Dear friend in the Risen Christ, I have Good News to you today! Jesus has already defeated all your problems on Calvary and has given you salvation. You have simply to believe and appropriate it. All His suffering, shameful death, burial and at last His Resurrection was for you and me. Jesus did not die or rise again for Himself. He did it for you and me, for us. A deeply rooted faith in the Lord's Resurrection and a solid understanding of that He did it for us and on our behalf frees us from any burden we unnecessarily carry. So dear brother/sister accept, appropriate and assimilate the power of the Lord's Resurrection; and dwell upon it.

Jesus was tied/bound that you and I would be freed. He was crushed that we might thrive. He died that we might have life in Him. So, you and I do not need to live under the burden of sin and darkness while it had already been dealt with once for all and efficaciously, through the death and Resurrection of the Lord. Yes, let you and I live a Post-Resurrection life not a Pre-Resurrection life – “a Lent that doesn't know an Easter” sort of life as Pope Francis put it.

Jesus has died, Jesus is Risen and Jesus will come again for you and for me. AMEN!!!

❖ THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

❖ INDEED HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!!! ALLELUIA!!!

HAPPY EASTER

Abba Ephrem Andom