

BECAUSE HE LIVES

1 Corinthians 15:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 21:3-7; 22-23; 22:5

"The Lord is risen." "He is risen indeed." Those are historically the Easter morning greetings given by Christians to one another as they gather to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. There is such a paucity in the English language when it comes to embracing all that those words mean. But try we do. Usually we do so in tiny bits of eternal truth. We express them with joy and confidence. It is without reservation that we believe in the glorious resurrection of Jesus. We embrace what that means for all who have placed their faith and trust in and full reliance on His triumph over sin, death, and hell. We rest in our hearts because there is forgiveness for all our sordid past, peace to our troubled hearts and minds, strength to walk the pathways God has set before us, confidence in His provision and promise for our eternal life in glory ... these and many more blessings are ours because He lives! As we walk the Road to Easter this year, let's reflect on and cling to some of God's provisions and promises for our tomorrows. After reading the Scripture references listed above, return to this part of the devotional and begin praising God.

Because He lives ... the voice of the Archangel will be heard around the universe;
Because He lives ... the trumpet of God will sound announcing His return for His own;
Because He lives ... eternal vibrations will be felt in every Christian grave;
Because He lives ... the grave of every Christian will be opened wide;
Because He lives ... the molecules and atoms of every Christian who died in faith will come together;
Because He lives ... the body of every Christian who died in faith will rise from his or her earthly grave;
Because He lives ... the dead in Christ will soar in the air to be united with their eternal souls and spirits;
Because He lives ... all remaining believers on earth will be caught up together with them in the air;
Because He lives ... all the saints of the ages will be united with Jesus, King of kings and Lord of lords;
Because He lives ... all whose faith is in Jesus will all gather together in glory to sing *Worthy is The Lamb*;
Because He lives ... the eternal glory of heaven will be enjoyed by all who have put their faith in Jesus;
Because He lives ... all Christians will be the bride of Christ, and forever enjoy His magnificent presence;
Because He lives ... the redeemed people of God will live together, never again to be separated;
Because He lives ... all tears will be wiped away by the tender hand of the Lamb of God;
Because He lives ... there will never again be any pain, sorrow, sickness, or heartache;
Because He lives ... the believers of all the ages will live forever in the land of fadeless day;
Because He lives ... the light of the resurrected Lamb of God will shine forever for there is no night there.
Because He lives ... the saints of all the ages will join in singing *Worthy is the Lamb* to receive riches, and glory, and power, now and forever more.

Dr. Robert Morris