

# NOW THAT EASTER HAS PASSED

The most Holy of weekends of the year has passed -- NOW WHAT? Will we experience a newness of life in our everyday activities -- OR -- will we fall back to the old routine and forget the Blessed story of Jesus' Resurrection and Victory over sin and the devil -- FOR US?

Many have fulfilled their yearly obligation of attending a Church Service and will put away their "Religion" until Christmas comes around in December.

E-C (Easter and Christmas) Christians abound and greatly outnumber those who will be loyal to their Love for Jesus -- YES -- I said "Love For Jesus" -- because this is the only Motivating Power that will carry us through life and bring us the Joy of Living.

Formal Religious Ritual is all that most people have today -- it is evident in the worldly activities of the majority on the Lord's Day -- sports, gardening, catching up on household chores. TRUE -- with our full schedules and our attempts to "keep up with the Jones'" keeps us in overdrive most of the week -- and Sunday seems to be our only time to "catch-up" with the "to-do-list."

But what about our "Love For Jesus"? What about our Loyalty to Him? What about our need of Spiritual Renewal after a week of battling the world just to keep our eyes above water? What part does the Savior have in all of this?

When we look back just a few days and realize what Jesus Christ endured FOR US -- the mocking, the shame, the pain, and even the horrible, humiliating death on the Cross -- we had better take stock of our Love and Devotion to Him.

Now is the time to set our priorities straight and put Him on the TOP of the list -- seeking to please Him in EVERY phase of our lives -- in our business dealings, in our school work, in our family life, and in our attitudes to others.

One more very large part of seeking to put Him First in everything, is to seek the TRUTH in every matter we face daily. TRUTH and HONESTY are greatly lacking today because of convenience. Most will take every opportunity to get out of difficult situations by stretching the facts to save our own skin -- while all the while the Lord sees and hears everything we say or do.

We suddenly get very pious on Religious Holidays and Celebrations -- attending Church in our best clothes, smiling at everyone we pass in the Church isles and greeting the Church officials with a strong hand-shake -- but when leave the crowds and head for home, and the next day at work or school, we slip back into the old schedule and tend to forget the warm feelings we had just a couple of days before.

Let's determine to carry our Faith beyond just the twice-a-year Holy events and make our lives different all year long -- doing our best to please the Lord in everything we do -- being pleasant to our fellow man -- going out of our way to be kind and helpful -- considering what the Lord has done for us and His example of compassion to those in need.

Let's show our Faith and devotion and prove His worth in our lives. Let's consider Him first in every decision we make -- in every promise we make -- in every business dealing we contract for -- in every relationship we encounter daily.

Let's consider the family we have -- loving parents, husband or wife -- the children the Lord has given to us -- YES -- let's carry the Love of Christ in our hearts and lives through the entire year -- not just in the Easter Season.

