Easter Sunday: God's Response to Sin, Part 3

Focus: He has transferred us to a new kingdom.

1. Quick Review of Lent

- a. Kerygma → Proclamation
 - i. The Goodness of Creation
 - ii. Sin and Its Consequences
 - iii. God's Response to Sin
 - iv. Our Response to God

2. God's Response to Sin: Jesus, the Lamb of God; Jesus, the Rightful King in Disguise

- a. We eat the flesh of the Lamb and pour his blood on the doorpost of our souls
- b. He conquers Satan and his kingdom of darkness from within
- c. He died, but now, tonight/this morning, he is risen!
 - Identity revealed. Power revealed.
 - Peter's preaching (Acts 2:22-24, 36) → It was not possible for him to be held by death!
 - 2. Revelation 1:18 → Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one; I died, and behold I am alive for evermore!
 - ii. Melito of Sardis → Who is he who contends with me? Let him stand in opposition to me!

3. What does the Resurrection mean for us? What results are meant to come from this victory?

- a. Colossians 1:13-14 → He has transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son
 - i. A new family
- b. Colossians 2:13-15 → He made a public example of the principalities and powers
 - Triumph! Have no fear of anything.
- c. Hebrews 2:14-15 → He delivered all of those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage.
 - i. I don't have to fear. I don't have to sin, don't have to rebel against God.
 - ii. Something is meant to be unlocked for me and for you: Eternity!

4. So, now what?

- a. Enemy occupied territory that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful King has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage. (CS Lewis)
 - i. Join the campaign:
 - ii. 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 → Our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the festival...
 - 1. Remove evil from your life and from the lives of others around you.
 - a. Give Jesus permission to conquer it all.
 - 2. Repent! Turn away from sin.
 - 3. Call on his name for assistance: In the name of Jesus, I renounce...
 - 4. Forgive! Let it all go: In the name of Jesus, I forgive...
 - 5. Let others see that your joy is a different kind of joy. Let nothing disturb you.
 - a. Something better than France in 1944, Someone far better has saved you: God himself, the only One who could do it.

5. Looking to Easter: The Next 7 Sundays...

- a. Focus: Our Response to God
- b. In the meantime, reflect more on these incredible mysteries.

Reflection Question and Homework:

- 1. What difference does it make in your life to be Christian?
- 2. Do you have any fears about death? Does this change any of that?
- 3. Read: Acts 2; 2 Kings 5:1-14; Matthew 19:16-22; John 14:1-6