

## The cosmic impact of Easter: God wins & Satan loses (Acts 10.34-43)

**Central Thought:** Easter made a cosmic impact: God won, and Satan lost.

1. For biblical context: Read Matt 28.16-20 and Acts 1.6-11
2. For more immediate context: Read Acts 10.1-33 (Story of the visions of Cornelius and Peter) (Acts 10 is longest story in Acts; emphasizes the importance of the episode (cf. Acts 11.1-18).)
3. Read the sermon passage: Acts 10.34-43. Note that Peter is preaching to a Gentile crowd.  
This record in Acts signifies the gospel being unleashed to the Nations (cf. Matt 28 & Acts 1)
4. Note in the passage that Peter is proclaiming the good news of salvation in Jesus:

V34-35: God desires a relationship with all people (cf. 1 Tim 2.4; 4.10) *is no partiality with God*

V36-39: God sent Jesus to *do good, healing all who were oppressed by the devil*

The explicit meaning of that is literal: some were literally rescued from demonic oppression.

Yet, we realize that everyone who is saved is rescued from the oppression of sin (Satan)

Implication: God sent Jesus to die, so that sinners would be saved

V40-41: God raised Jesus from the dead; and He appeared to many witnesses (cf. 1 Cor 15.4-8)

V42-43: God commanded His apostles (us) to testify to resurrection of Jesus (Matt 28; Acts 1)

What is the testimony that we are to give? Our witness is the good news of the gospel (v43):  
*anyone who believes in [Jesus] receives forgiveness of sins through His name* (cf. Rom 10.13)

5. To help us remember how important it is to be forgiven, I shared two passages

Read Luke 13.1-5: We cannot know God's purpose for the plague called covid 19

We can herald Jesus' warning: unless people repent they will be separated from God forever

Read Rev 20.1-5: Everyone will be judged by Jesus (cf. Acts 10.42)

Those whose names are not written in *Book of Life* (those who aren't saved), will be condemned to an eternal separation from God

6. In the 4<sup>th</sup> truth about the real meaning of Easter, I said that Easter calls for a response to God
7. So, for application, I suggested we use Acts 10.34-43 (and other passages) to tell our unsaved family/friends the real meaning of Easter & invite them to respond to God's offer of salvation

Further thoughts on the Resurrection of Jesus and of those who have trusted in Jesus

(on the next page)