



ROB'S BLOG

March 2013 – Easter

The question that matters is not about whether Jesus died on the cross, or whether he was raised from the dead, but ***what do those things mean?***

If what happened to Jesus after his death says something about God, then what it says about God is real and true for us now as well.

If the death of Jesus was an angry God punishing his own son for the sins of the world, then his resurrection means a very powerful God demanding repentance and offering forgiveness now. If the death of Jesus was seen as a failure by God, then his resurrection ultimately says he succeeds now. If the death of Jesus was the ultimate act of love and self communication, then the resurrection says He is an even greater power of love beyond love.

For me, the death of Jesus speaks of God's vulnerability. I know about human vulnerability, risks and dangers, and a hope for more that is sometimes difficult to achieve. The resurrection of Jesus for me is about the power of love and grace, because it shows a God who in vulnerability transforms pain and suffering. It's a love whose power is about the transformation of humanity - and I know I, and my brother and sister human beings, stand in need of love and transformation; another word could be salvation.

For me, resurrection is only as much about Jesus' coming 'back to life' after his death as his birth is about an event in a stable in history. The history only sets the scene for faith today - his birth is about his presence in our lives now; his death is about locating God in human pain and suffering

My hope of resurrection today is about all the reasons Jesus died then - religious power, empire builders, the helpless poor, the powerless and vulnerable - being transformed by hope and love now.

Happy Easter!

God bless

Rob

