

“EARTH DAY”

Intro.

- I. Various calendars list special holidays and occasions of special events.
 - A. Among them are national, special, or religious holidays, or birthdays of special people in our history—such as birthdays of previous presidents.
 - B. Some calendars list “EARTH DAY”, during April of each year.
 - 1. This suggests that we give more attention to the environment, the conditions and beauty of the earth.
 - 2. From the earth comes oil, coal, water, vegetation and fruit—ALL for the good of mankind. Gen.1:10-12
 - C. The earth is God's by way of “creation”. Gen.1:1
- II. There are other things relative to **MAN** and the **EARTH**—which we need to remember.

Discussion

I. 1st, we are reminded that we are MADE OF THE EARTH.

- A. Man did **not** “evolve” from lower forms of life, as some argue today.
- B. Man was **made** from the earth, by Almighty God.
 - 1. The first man was made from dust. Gen.2:7; 3:19
 - 2. We who sprang from Adam are of the same nature, and are “earthy”. Eccl.12:7; 1Co.15:47A; Eccl.3:20

II. 2nd, we are reminded that man is made to LIVE ON THE EARTH.

- A. The earth was made **for** man to inhabit. Isa. 45:18; Ac.17:26
 - 1. The atmospheric conditions are just right for physical life.
 - 2. The temperature is just right for man—who can adapt to seasons and extremes
 - a. If we were any closer to the sun, we would *burn* to death.
 - b. If we were any farther away from the sun, we would *freeze* to death.
 - 3. The air we breathe into our bodies includes the oxygen that the earth and its growth produces.
- B. God has adorned the earth **for** our good and enjoyment.
 - 1. The mountains, valleys, streams, lakes, green grass, flowers and trees are all enjoyed by mankind.
 - 2. The earth produces raw materials for food for man's shelter, clothing and food.
 - 3. (Read or quote the words of the song, “For the Beauty of the Earth”).

III. 3rd, we are reminded that we can GLORIFY GOD FROM EARTH.

- A. We *begin* by letting Him speak to us FROM the Bible—while we are on earth.
 - 1. He tells of our **origin** and **purpose** for our life on the earth.
 - 2. He also tells us of our **destiny**, in that we are not to live on the earth eternally, but either in heaven or hell, and our time here is to prepare *for* that destination
- B. We *then* glorify God by responding to His message as revealed in the Bible.
 - 1. We respond by obeying the gospel to be saved. Ac.2:36-38
 - 2. We respond by worshiping Him as He directs. Jn.4:23f; Ac.2:42
 - 3. We respond by holy and righteous living. 2Co.7:1; 1Pe.1:16
 - 4. We respond by engaging in good works. Mt.5:16
 - 5. We respond by sharing the gospel with the lost. Mk.16:16; Ac.8:4
 - 6. We respond by being in the church. Ac.2:(36-41) 47; Ep.3:21
 - a. Human religions that God did not authorize (such as Hinduism, Buddaism, Mohammedanism and other idolatrous religions do NOT glorify Him. Ac.17: 22-30
 - b. So-called “Christian denominations” that attempt to exalt the **person** of Christ, but reject His **word**—do not glorify God or His Son. Jn.12:48
 - 1) Jesus prayed for unity, but men strive in vain to glorify Him by creating and fostering divisions. Jn.17:20f
 - 2) Jesus built **one** church, but men establish human religions that do not

wear His name, or respect His authority.

3) Jesus gave **one** plan of salvation, but men create “new ways” of offering salvation to the lost. Mt.15:8f

IV. 4th, we are reminded that we will someday LEAVE THIS EARTH.

A. The earth will someday come to a fiery end. Gen.8:22; Mt.24:35; 2Pe.3:10f

B. We will remain a part **of** the earth till the “end”, as our bodies are buried **in** the earth. Jn.5:28f; Rev.20:13; 1Co.15:48-50; 1Th.4:15-17

Conclusion

I. Are you ready for your resting place **IN** the earth?

II. Are you ready now for the time of your resurrection **from** the earth—to meet the Lord? 2Co.5:10f