

OF EASTER

by Steve Wessels

To my risen Lord, © Easter 2006

Have you ever stopped to think
of what our world would be like
without Easter?

Without the assurance of forgiveness of sin
and of His grace and mercy and love beyond measure?

Think of a life filled with the strife and doubts and suffering,
without the knowledge of the joy that awaits on the other side....

As a teen I so desperately wanted to be at peace,
to escape the war that was raging within my soul
and the crushing loneliness of not knowing
if someone really cared for me.

I didn't understand then that
God was burning into my soul
the memories of the searing tears,
that in time I might write this
and have tender compassion for all others alongside my path
who are trudging down that lonely, desperate road.....

Can you imagine a life without Easter?
A life without knowing He cared so much for us,
without the assured hope and the joy of knowing
that He reigns with power over sin and death,
that He arose victorious and is awaiting our arrival?

Don't many in our society, in our own neighborhoods,
within our own family and friends
ignore the reality of Easter?

Oh that the bells of a million steeples would ring out
and exclaim once again the quickening heartbeat,
the anticipated joy-filled outburst of song that
HE HAS RISEN IN TRIUMPH OVER SIN!

I thank God who has given us His Light for the path
between war and peace, His Son Jesus Christ.
He has conquered the fears of forever
and washed my heart and my hands
with His blood and His tears.
How can I ignore such holy love?

Surely my heart will burst with agony that
so many of my neighbors and friends
will again ignore this glorious Easter
and the message of reconciliation
and peace that He still offers to all who trust in Him.