

# From the Family Room

21 April, 2019

**Creekwood Church of Christ  
Mobile, AL**

## ***EMPTY BUT FULFILLING!***



***Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity.*** Ecclesiastes 1:2, 14

***Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you*** 1 Peter :3-4

***And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.*** 1 Corinthians 15:17-18

Everything man does under the sun that is separated from God is “vanity.” This is the message King Solomon was inspired to write in the book of Ecclesiastes. The word “vanity” has also been translated as “meaningless,” “futile,” “useless,” and “empty.” Life is filled with many things that promise satisfaction and fulfillment in life. But without God, those exciting promises turn out to be empty. They fail to live up to the lofty expectations they created. Many people are fooled and dedicate their life to empty promises.

God has given us a promise that is fulfilling. Ironically that promise is symbolized by an empty tomb. Meaningfulness and success are found in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The empty tomb is a symbol of Christ’s victory over death. It is in Him and this victory that we find true peace of mind, real hope, true purpose in life, lasting satisfaction, and permanent power. In Him we find a friend forever. In Jesus we find lasting joy.

Everything in human history hinges on the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The first century church understood this because they were taught this as a matter of first importance. We in the 21<sup>st</sup> century church need to clearly understand this also. Everything we believe and practice rests on the fact symbolized by the empty tomb. If Christ has not been raised from the dead, our faith is futile.

I pray that all of us will grow in our understanding of Jesus, His love for us, and the fact of His resurrection. May we thank God everyday throughout the year for His great gift of our living hope given to us by His grace through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

***RICKY***