

Faith and Funnies

A newsletter from Faithful Friends KY



Easter Edition



This Month in History

- **April 2, 1513** - Spanish explorer Ponce De Leon sighted Florida and claimed it for the Spanish Crown after landing at the site of present day St. Augustine, now the oldest city in the continental U.S.
- **April 2, 1792** - Congress established the first U.S. Mint at Philadelphia.

How do you know carrots are good for your eyes? 

Have you ever seen a rabbit wearing glasses?

What kind of bunny can't hop? 

A chocolate bunny!



Why did the Easter egg hide?

He was a little chicken!

Easter Riddles & Jokes



Where does the Easter bunny get his eggs?



From eggplants!

What kind of bean never grows in the garden?



A jelly bean!



Were You There?

written by Marla Carter

I loved my grandparents' church for many reasons, but mostly because it looked different than my church. I loved the fact that it had a balcony. (I'm not sure why I loved that because we never once sat in the balcony.) It also had a choir loft and the choir members wore beautiful robes with gold sashes. Behind the choir loft was the baptistry, and above that was beautiful depiction of a bright blue river winding through a green hillside to a cross. It's funny how we remember things because I was convinced that that was a stained glass window, but my mom told me recently that it was actually a painting. When I was a little girl and attended church with my Granny and Pa, I would sit in the pew and stare at that blue river, thinking about how the river must wind its way to the throne of God Himself.

Another thing I remember is that on Easter Sunday, there was a soprano soloist who seemingly sang the same song every year. My mind may be fuzzy on that detail too, though I am certain of the way I felt when she sang, "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord." It's a haunting melody and the words, simple and short as they are, are meant to cause you to ponder the death of Christ. "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?...Were you there when they nailed Him to the cross?...Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?...Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble."

Were you there when they nailed Him to the cross? Obviously, the answer is no, but it's a rhetorical question. I wasn't there when Jesus was crucified, but what if I had been? What would I have done? How would I have felt?

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Would I have been caught up in the emotion of the crowds as they shouted for Pilate to crucify Jesus?

“Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?” asked Pilate, knowing it was out of self-interest that the chief priests had handed Jesus over to him. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have Pilate release Barabbas instead. “What shall I do, then, with the one you call the king of the Jews?” Pilate asked them. “Crucify him!” they shouted. “Why? What crime has he committed?” asked Pilate. But they shouted all the louder, “Crucify him!” Wanting to satisfy the crowd, Pilate released Barabbas to them. He had Jesus flogged, and handed him over to be crucified.

Mark 15:9-15

The crowds got sucked into whatever lies the priests were saying about Jesus and demanded that Pilate release Barabbus, a known criminal, instead of Jesus, the infamous teacher and miracle worker.

I may not have been there, but I often do the same thing--reject Jesus. The crowds weren't really so fond of Barabbus, they just didn't want Jesus. Every time I choose to do things my own way, to choose sin over obedience, I'm like the crowds rejecting Jesus. When I choose to believe the lies of Satan instead of the truth of God's Word, I'm like the crowds who listened to the lies of the priests.

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Maybe the songwriter had something like that in mind when he wrote, "Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble." Thinking that if I had been there among the crowds I would likely have been shouting "Crucify Him!" along with them should cause me to tremble. Thinking that every time I sin it's like rejecting Jesus should also cause me to tremble. And then it should cause me to **rejoice**.

The crowds rejected Jesus that day, but He died for them. The priests and Jewish leaders rejected Jesus that day, but He died for them. Barabbus was a criminal and on that day Jesus died in His place. In fact, I'm not only like the crowd who rejected Jesus, but I'm like Barabbus too--Jesus died in my place. Jesus, though He was innocent, died in the place of one who was a lawbreaker and the lawbreaker went free. Isn't that the heart of Easter? Jesus took the punishment that should have been ours so that we could have life--abundant life here on earth and eternal life someday with Him in heaven.

And that definitely causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. It's utterly amazing!

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24



Just Sayin'

Finish the well-known saying.

Fit as a _____.

Practice what you _____.

Better late than _____.

When in Rome, _____.

Birds of a feather, _____.

Jack of all trades, _____.

Saved by the _____.

The early bird _____.

Two wrongs don't make a _____.

On Easter Day

by Celia Thaxter 1835-1894

Easter lilies! Can you hear
What they whisper, low and clear?

In dewy fragrance they unfold
Their splendor sweet, their snow and gold.

Every beauty-breathing bell

News of heaven has to tell.

Listen to their mystic voice,

Hear, oh mortal, and rejoice!

Hark, their soft and heavenly chime!

Christ is risen for all time!



Easter Wordsearch

V H A Y J E S U S D V C P N D Z T G S I
 I B C W G U A U W U Q R Y Y I P N X D Z
 J Q Z A C I I H P D E W Y Q L E K D T A
 Y H O F N G Z B Y S C G T K B S M M W D
 V E I K H D J E U E I Y U P H T D Q Q B
 X J F P D G Y V K N L S K X H C N U R B
 Q A P K A Y T J S Z N O Y L V J E U V K
 X V V H E C O C A Y M Y Z Y N O S I H J
 Z Y L Y D S L B A O G G S D A C I G F L
 Q E A X V H I R P W X I X O J D R W E U
 I B W E D F I J Y B F A Q V E L N O Y F
 I S N E V U F T K U D R C A Y P U U K L
 E Y R Q B M O A S G B D E F O J S V S N
 J W R X G H S D E E J C N T A F L S P F
 I W W X K T L Z M Q Z M I U S M H I T G
 C H U R C H G K W A W E Q G E A I D B M
 W L Q E U B A S K E T U A O I F E L G Z
 D F T H Y C E G J P B D D H L O L O Y N
 K X V U J C Q G L X L D C L I Y R M E N
 B O Y L D Z P E P P K U B X L C W D K E

EASTER
 HUNT
 CHURCH
 JESUS
 FAMILY

BUNNY
 EGGS
 BRUNCH
 LILIES

BASKET
 CANDY
 SUNRISE
 SUNDAY

