

"We can only rest in peace when we know the Prince of Peace."

Memorial Service

I have been to too many Memorial Services which include my friends, neighbors, co-workers, and relatives. I had helped with the planning of several. A few years ago, I was asked to speak at the service of a co-worker's adult son. That was difficult because I only met the person once and I did not know whether he was saved. I did give the plan of salvation and explained that it would be possible to see the deceased again if he and they were born again. But all these services have several things in common. I have not been to one for me, yet. They aways say good things about the person. The person being remembered and honored is no longer alive.

Every year there is a national memorial service. The first national observance of Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868. The holiday was proclaimed by Commander-in-Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic to honor the Union soldiers who had died in the Civil War. The Department of Veterans Affairs credits Mary Ann Williams with originating the "idea of strewing the graves of Civil War soldiers—Union and Confederate" with flowers. ¹

I recently received a written invitation to attend a Memorial Service. According to the invite, it was for a great person. His teachings were great and should be followed. He instructed us to do this in remembrance of him.

But wait a minute. The person they were referring to was not dead. He is alive! I just spoke to Him this morning. I know He is alive, because of His amazing nature, His answers to prayers and His miracles in my life. He does not show His physical presence because in my human body I would be destroyed.

Yes, Jesus did die. He laid down His life and shed His blood for our sins. But on the third day, He arose, and He lives within the hearts of believers. It is not a religion to a dead god but instead, it is a relationship, an empowerment, a passion, and an assurance of eternal life through God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Unless the overtaker comes first, you will see the undertaker. What will they say at your Memorial Service? More importantly, what will the Lord say to you? Will you be truly resting in peace? Call on the loving and living Savior while you still can. Ask Him to forgive your sins and to be the Lord of your life.



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"He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: He has risen from the dead."

Matt 28:6.7



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