



Delbert Scott
28th Senate District

MISSOURI SENATE
JEFFERSON CITY

CAPITOL BUILDING, ROOM 416
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65101

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Contact: Debbie Poire
(573) 751-8793

The Reason for the Season: Remembering the Importance of Easter

Winter has lost its grip and spring has arrived at last. The warm weather, flowers beginning to bloom, buds swelling, and the return of songbirds all brings hope of new life. Brightly colored eggs, a large variety of sweet treats, and a furry, four-legged friend are all wonderful reminders of the Easter holiday. I especially enjoy watching the grandchildren during the annual hunt for their special surprises each year. While I watch little Landen and Clay search for their treasures tucked inches away from last year's hiding spot, I gladly remember the true reason for the season — the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Easter is the most important holiday of the year for Christians. Ever since we were little, we have been taught the story in the Bible of Jesus' death and resurrection. In order to truly appreciate this remarkable holiday, we must really grasp the significance and importance of these two events.

First, we observe Good Friday, which falls on March 21 this year. Good Friday marks the day when Jesus took the sins of the world upon himself through his death. In doing so, Jesus affirms the promise of the forgiveness of our sins.

The other event is a much more celebratory occasion. On Sunday, March 23, we will gather to observe the day when Jesus conquered death and arose from the grave. Through this miracle, He affirmed the promise of eternal life. Perhaps the most popular verse used by those on Easter Sunday comes from Luke 24: 1-7 (from the New American Standard Bible) recounting the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them “Why do you seek the living One among the dead? He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”

While celebrating spring, with its new emerging life, don't forget the true meaning of Easter and the new life offered so many years ago.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at 573-751-8793 or by e-mail at: delbertscott@senate.state.mo.us.

Senator Delbert Scott represents the people of Barton, Benton, Cedar, Dallas, Henry, Hickory, Pettis, Polk and St. Clair counties in the Missouri Senate.

