

New Life Riders

Motorcyclists Serving God and Community
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Dear Friends.

The balmy breezes and a new riding season are just around the corner. Spring is almost here! After the winter months, those of you that still have a motorcycle must be anxious to come out of hibernation and ride. I know that I am, and I don't have a bike anymore. What joy it would be to feel the wind on my face and a breath of fresh air again!

It is also time for us to celebrate Easter, the longest observed and greatest annual festival on the Christian calendar. This year, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ will be celebrated on March 31. The dates for Easter vary and can fall on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. It is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the spring equinox.

The dates are unimportant, what we are celebrating is the empty tomb! Jesus died on the cross for your sins and mine in order to bring us in to a right relationship with God. But the grave could not hold Him, **He is Risen!**

Jesus Christ, the Son of the Living God is risen. He speaks to us today as clearly as He spoke to us long ago. And just as those who were called to leave their fishing nets and follow Him, you and I are called to share the Lord's Way with the world around us.

This is also a time to exercise some caution as conditions can be "iffy" in early Spring. We still need to consider the wind chill factor and be aware of icy roads. It would also be a great time to enroll in a course through the ABATE Motorcycle Safety Program.

Looking forward to the magnificent springtime sunshine, in sharp contrast to those dull winter days, reminded me of an article I read concerning "seasonal affective disorder," also known as the winter blues. A whole industry has sprung up making products to treat light deficiency, such as a \$100.00 "Dawn Simulator" lamp timed to brighten slowly. Light visors, and a \$400.00 portable light box.

To me, all of these products seem a bit foolish when one considers two things. First, a research group at Brown University School of Medicine states, "It's an interesting theory, but so far the data haven't supported it." Second, and more importantly, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world: those who follow me shall not walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." John 8:12. Jesus could not have made a more astonishing claim.

The word "light" was directly synonymous with God Himself. The Psalmist stated, "The Lord is my light and my salvation." Psalm 27:1. Isaiah prophesied, "The Lord will be to you an everlasting light." Isaiah 60:19. And Micah said with confidence, "When I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me." Micah 7:8.

In claiming to be the light of the world, Jesus clearly declared Himself as the Messiah. Jesus makes the same awesome claim to us. "I am the light of the world." He bids us to walk in His Light and to let our light so shine that others may see our good works so that the Father will be glorified. Praise God we don't need a "Dawn Simulator." We have the Bright and Morning Star.

I know that many of you are looking forward to attending the many events that will be coming up this spring. For information regarding upcoming local events, please check your favorite motorcycle website. I also recommend that you check your **ABATE** website, it has numerous regions listed with their events for the entire year. Prayerfully decide where you will be most effective.

Remember, if because of time or distance, you are unable to attend the listed activities, and you know of one closer to your home, go and introduce others to the truth that God loves them, and He is good! When you share the Gospel with someone, you are leading them to the source of true love and hope —Jesus!

"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

May you be blessed as you work and witness for Him this upcoming riding season.

Please continue to keep in touch with each other and update me with your prayer requests.

Until next time, love Jesus, be thankful and keep doing the good stuff.

God bless,
Riding with Jesus,
Bob Dillon
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God bless America.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)