



Do You Believe In Easter?

Edith Burns was a wonderful Christian lady. She was a patient of Doctor Will Phillips. Dr. Phillips was a gentle doctor who saw patients as people. One morning Dr. Phillips went to his office with a heavy heart,



and it was because of Edith. When he walked into the waiting room, there she sat with her big black Bible earnestly talking to a young girl sitting beside her. Edith Burns had a habit of introducing herself in this way: "Hello, my name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?" Then she would explain the meaning of Easter, and often people were saved.

Dr. Philip's head nurse was a woman named Beverly. Beverly had first met Edith when taking her blood pressure. Edith began by saying, "My name is Edith Burns. Do you believe in Easter?" Beverly said, "Well, yes I do." Edith said, "What do you believe about Easter?" Beverly answered, "It's all about egg hunts, dressing up, and going to church." Edith explained the real meaning of Easter to Beverly, and was able to lead her to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

After being called into the doctor's office, and seeing the look on his face, Edith said, "Dr. Will, why are you so sad?" With a heavy heart he said, "The lab report came back and it tells me you have cancer, and Edith, you're not going to live very long." Edith said, "Why Will Phillips, shame on you. Do you think God makes mistakes? You have just told me I'm going to see my precious Lord Jesus, my husband, and my friends. You have just told me that I am going to celebrate Easter forever. Why are you having difficulty giving me my ticket?"

Dr. Phillips thought to himself, "What a magnificent woman this Edith Burns is!" Edith continued coming to Dr. Phillips. Christmas came and the office was closed through January 3rd.

When the office reopened, Edith did not show up. That afternoon, Edith called Dr. Phillips and said she would have to be moving to the hospital. "Will," she said, "I'm very near home, so would you make sure they put women in my room with me who need to know about Easter?" Well, they did just that. Many women were saved. Everybody on that floor from staff to patients was so excited about Edith. They started calling her Edith Easter; that is everyone except Phyllis Cross, the head nurse.

Phyllis made it plain that she wanted nothing to do with Edith because she was a "religious nut". She had been a nurse in an army hospital. She had seen it all and heard it all. She had been married three times, she was hard, and cold.

One morning the two nurses who were to attend Edith were sick. It was Phyllis, then, who had to go in and attend her. When Phyllis walked in, Edith had a big smile on her face and said, "Phyllis, God loves you and I love you. I have been praying for you." Phyllis said, "Well, you can quit praying for me, it won't work. I'm not interested." "Well, I will pray and ask God not to let me go home to Heaven until you come to know the Lord," Edith said. Phyllis said, "Then you will never die because that will never happen."

Every day Phyllis Cross would walk into the room and Edith would say, "God loves you, Phyllis, and I love you. I'm praying for you." One day Phyllis was drawn to Edith's room like a magnet is drawn to iron. Phyllis said, "Edith, you have asked everybody here the question, 'Do you believe in Easter?' but you have never asked me." Edith said, "Phyllis, I wanted to many times, but I felt I should wait until you asked."

Edith Burns took her Bible and shared the Easter Story with Phyllis. She told Phyllis about the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. Edith asked

Phyllis, "Do you believe in Easter? Do you believe that Jesus Christ is alive and that He wants to live in your heart?" Phyllis said, "I do believe, and I do want Jesus in my life." Right then and there, Phyllis prayed and invited Jesus Christ into her heart.

Two days later, Phyllis Cross came in and Edith said, "Do you know what day it is?" Phyllis said, "Why Edith, it's Good Friday." Edith said, "Oh, no, for you every day is Easter. Happy Easter Phyllis!"

On Easter Sunday, Phyllis came into work, did some of her duties, and then went down to the flower shop and got some Easter lilies. She wanted to go up to see Edith and give her some Easter lilies and wish her a



Happy Easter. When she walked into Edith's room, Edith was in bed. That big black Bible was on her lap. Her hands were in that Bible. There was a sweet smile on her face. When Phyllis Cross went to pick up Edith's hand, she realized Edith was dead. Edith's left hand was on John 14:2-3, "In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were not so*, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also. . Her right hand was on Revelation 21:4, "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Phyllis Cross took one look at that dead body, lifted her face toward heaven, and with tears streaming down her cheeks, said, "Happy Easter, Edith - Happy Easter!"

Phyllis Cross left Edith's body, walked out of the room, and over to a table where two student nurses were sitting. She said, "My name is Phyllis Cross. Do you believe in Easter?"

