

SUPER SUNDAY?

Mattoon, IL

I

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: Matthew 28:1-9.
- B. There is a phenomenon in this country and some other parts of the world being celebrated today; it is called "Super Sunday" or "Super Bowl Sunday."
- C. I find this very interesting to say the least, but also very sad as well.
- D. As a sports fan I enjoy "Super Sunday" but put my trust in the real Super Sunday!

I. ELEMENTS OF SUPER SUNDAY.

- A. (Knowledge) It is amazing how much people know about Super Sunday:
 - 1. The names of the coaches and players.
 - 2. A brief history of each player (college).
 - 3. The records of the teams, and the prediction of the outcome.
 - 4. Statistics of past records of all kinds.
 - 5. Past histories of Super Bowl games.
- B. (Money) It is amazing to me to see the money spent on Super Sunday:
 - 1. Major money is spent by advertisers to push their products.
 - 2. In addition, a lot of money is spent on T-shirts, pennants, and other souvenirs.
 - 3. Fans spend money on tickets, motel rooms, travel expenses, and for gambling.
- C. (Priority) It is amazing to me to see how people react to Super Sunday:
 - 1. They will spend large amounts of money.
 - 2. They will say certain things to draw attention to themselves and to the game.
 - 3. Many things will "go on the back burner" because this game is number one priority.
- D. (Opportunists) While the game is going on other things will happen:
 - 1. Thieves will break into motels, hotels, and steal from those in attendance at the game.
 - 2. Others will have sales at their place of business, which have nothing to do with the game, but will use the opportunity to make money.
 - 3. The players themselves, coaches, officials and others will make vast sums of money.
- E. And all of this for a silly football game. This game will not:
 - 1. Bring peace to the world.
 - 2. Significantly reduce unemployment.
 - 3. Solve the problems of inflation or illiteracy.
 - 4. It will not help keep families together, keep crime down, or help people get to heaven.

II. THE TRUTH ABOUT "SUPER SUNDAY."

- A. The bottom line is that the Super Bowl and Super Sunday is too much ado about next to nothing.
- B. The reason this is true is because this is not Super Sunday!
- C. The real super Sunday is the day when Jesus was resurrected (Mt. 28:1-9).

III. WHAT THE REAL SUPER SUNDAY MEANS.

- A. Death was conquered by Christ (Heb. 2:15).
- B. Satan was defeated (Heb. 2:14).
- C. Sin was done away, newness of life is possible (1Cor. 15:54b-57).
- D. God's power was shown to be supreme over all others (Rom. 1:4).
- E. Because of Christ's indestructible life:
 - 1. We can know how to live godly lives.
 - 2. Families can be happy productive units of society.
 - 3. We know how to live with one another in peace.

4. We know how to deal with problems in our own lives.
5. There is purpose and meaning in life, because death is not the end.

IV. THE SAD THING.

- A. There is more devotion to a football game, more dollars spent, more things said, etc., than the greatest event of all history, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.
- B. The Super Bowl can't get you to heaven, but a resurrected Jesus can (Jn. 14:1-6).

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Let us be sure and have our priorities right in knowing what Super Sunday is all about.
- B. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.