

RESURRECTION LIFE

Mark 16:1–6 (ESV) When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. 2 And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. 3 And they were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” 4 And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. 5 And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. 6 And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him.

DEATH DEFEATED

- Pandemonium broke loose as “Death,” and his ghouls of destruction erupted in celebration, for all of mankind were now irrevocably in their clutches at Jesus’ death.
- But three days after His death, the earth trembled and quaked, and the glory of the angel blew away the Roman guards. And the stone was rolled away.
- “Death” screamed back to Satan, “We tried, we used everything at our disposal and all the power within us, but we could not keep Him down; he defeated and destroyed us; his power overcame us. We have lost. He is resurrected. We are defeated.”

SEEING BEYOND THE EMPTY TOMB

- Easter is a celebrated event around the world.
 - Secular perspective—include bunnies, eggs, gatherings, and marketing.
 - Sacred perspective: a focus on an empty tomb and resurrected Jesus.
- How necessary it is for us to see beyond the empty tomb—to see and understand the very real, spiritual transactions that took place.
 - The resurrection is more than a special story.
- It was the ultimate power encounter:
 - Life vs. death; light vs. darkness; God’s kingdom vs. Satan’s kingdom.
 - Life and Light prevailed over death and darkness.
- **Easter represents the great power of almighty God.**

Jesus’ Identity Declared

God the Son

Romans 1:4 and who through the Spirit of holiness was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead: . . .

- A massive power encounter occurred in the heavenlies establishing Jesus’ identity.

Lord Over All

Ephesians 1:20, 22 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, And He put all things in subjection under His feet, . . . **Phil. 2:9-10**

- Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, His Sovereign position was declared!

- The religious leaders' question in **John 2** was, “What gives you the right to take authority over this Temple, drive out our Temple business?”
- Jesus responded that He would validate His authority that He is God the Son when, in 3 days, His body is resurrected from death.

Jesus Defeated Satan

- There was a mighty victory declared on that Resurrection Sunday—it was a dramatic event in the heavenlies.
 - We have no idea!!!

Hebrews 2:14 Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

- Oh, if we can imagine this cataclysmic moment *when the myriads of angels witnessed that precise moment of resurrection break-through—throughout the heavenlies, they cried out, “Power to the Lamb,” “Glory and Honor and Power to the Lamb!!” while the hordes of hell trembled and cowered.*

LIVING IN LIGHT OF THE EMPTY TOMB

- This same power of the resurrection has been extended to humanity—those who truly will receive the gift of eternal life.

Entering the Life of Resurrection Power

- This very same power demonstrated in Christ’s resurrection belongs to true believers in Jesus Christ.

Colossians 2:12 (ESV) in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead.

- At Christ’s death on the cross, we are told the earth shook and quaked.
- At Christ’s resurrection from death, there was an earthquake.
 - These are reverberations of the massive power encounter that was taking place in the heavenlies.
- There are innumerable other reverberations of this massive power encounter that have been set off for the past 2,000 years.
 - Every time a person receives God’s gift of salvation, a massive reverberation is set off, reminding Satan he has been defeated!!

Living in Resurrection Power

- Now, it is possible for people to walk in this very resurrection power.

Ephesians 1:18-20 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know . . . what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

- If you are a believer, Satan might have lost you to God’s kingdom, but he will do everything in his capacity to rob you of the inheritance that is yours in Christ.
- He wants you to be mired down, feeling like you are a slave to:

- Sin
- fear
- guilt
- sorrow
- despair
- depression
- condemnation
- hopelessness
- self-hatred
- self-destruction
- addictions
- But the power of Jesus' resurrection was not merely present on Resurrection Sunday—it is present and in force today.
 - **The very same power that raised Jesus from the dead can be at work in you!!**
- That is why the Lord says we are not to grieve as those with no hope, for we are children of hope; you can say, “Be gone hopelessness!!”
 - For I am a child of hope who belongs to the God of hope, and I live in that living hope made possible in the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- You have the power to overcome:
 - sin with righteousness
 - fear with faith
 - gloom with joy
 - guilt with forgiveness
 - sorrow with rejoicing
 - despair with optimism
 - despondency with celebration
 - depression with jubilation
 - condemnation with freedom
 - hopelessness with hope
 - self-hatred with significance
 - addictions with the power of the Holy Spirit



The echoing earthquakes of Jesus' resurrection power are still reverberating today!

Easter is not merely a holiday to be observed but a life to be experienced!