

Today we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Jesus came to this earth – AS God in the Flesh

To Live a Perfect Life

then to Die on the Cross – to PAY for OUR Sins

then to conquer Death & the Grave – On OUR Behalf

& then to RISE from the Grave to PROVE he had accomplished it –
All FOR US – on our behalf – IN our place

But – My Question for us today is

Do we have a firm GRASP – on the REAL REASON

Why Jesus ROSE from the Dead – on that Resurrection Morning?

Here is a Struggle that I think we ALL have –

at some point in our lives – or to some extent in our lives

We want a Healing - Jesus wants a Resurrection

we want Jesus to FIX our problems now

we want Jesus to HEAL us now

we want Jesus to MAKE things right now

but Jesus knows that are our “here & now” - is a vapor of time
& it could be over - at any moment

this life is so FRAGILE - so TEMPORARY - so UNCERTAIN

**but still we want God to fix things in our "here & now"
in this fragile - temporary - uncertain life**

We want a healing - Jesus wants a Resurrection!

Let's Pray

**Jesus came to this earth as God in the flesh
to BE ABLE to offer us - New Resurrection Life – For Eternity**

**yes he healed many while he was here –
and he still heals today**

**but his healings – both in the Bible and today
are simply proof that HE IS - who he says HE IS**

But, **listen** to me **please**

**God fixing our "here & now" circumstances
in this fragile and temporal life**

is **NOT why Jesus** Christ **came** to this **earth**
to **Die on the cross** for **OUR sins**

Jesus Died for our **sins**
& He **Conquered Death** & the **Grave**

in **order** to **offer us**
a **New Resurrection Life – For Eternity**

We've been looking at the resurrection of Lazarus
from John 11 - as we've been leading up to today

Lazarus, along with his sisters Mary and Martha,
were possibly the best friends of Jesus, outside his disciples

& Lazarus was deathly ill, & Mary and Martha his sisters
knew that Jesus could heal their brother Lazarus

and so they sent him a Message

trusting that he would come immediately
or just speak the word - & Lazarus would be healed

but instead - Jesus delayed –
until Lazarus had been dead for FOUR DAYS

and both the sisters (basically) said to Jesus when he arrived

*if you would have been here,
you could have healed our brother Lazarus*

and John 11 says, at this *Jesus was deeply troubled* –
& verse 35 says - *Jesus wept*

not because Lazarus had died – but it seems to me
he wept for the pain that his friends were going through

they wanted a healing so bad - they wanted Jesus
to fix things in their “here & now” so bad

**but - Jesus wanted to give them a taste
of the New Resurrection Life that he truly came to bring**

And **so** – in the **midst of their pain** and **their grieving**,
in the midst of them thinking Jesus let them down

Jesus brought Resurrection Life to Lazarus

***They* wanted a Healing - Jesus wanted a Resurrection**

**Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead – to demonstrate –
he was headed to the cross - to bring us New Resurrection Life**

but - at the **triumphal entry** –
when **Jesus came** into **Jerusalem** on his **way** to the **cross**

the **people still assumed** Jesus was **coming**
to **fix** their **problems** in their **“here and now”**

& **when** it **looked** like **Jesus** was **NOT riding** into **Jerusalem**
to **fix** their **“here & now” problems** - **they turned on him**

The **people wanted** a **healing** of their **circumstances**

but **Jesus** wanted to **give them** (and us)
a **complete New Resurrection Life – For Eternity**

But - **most** of the **people missed it** - **because** they **couldn't**
get their **eyes off** their **“here and now”**

Please, don't be like them

don't be so consumed with your "here and now"

that you miss the True Eternal Resurrection Life

that Jesus Christ came to give you – Please, don't miss it

In John CH 6 Jesus feeds 5000, a meal that would
sustain them only for a few hours

and the next day the crowd followed Jesus – in order for him
to Satisfy their "here & now" problem, of wanting a free lunch

And Jesus tells them – in

John 6:26–27 (NLT)

26 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs.

27 But don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you . . . [repeat]

Jesus did not want the people
to misunderstand - WHY he came

he didn't want them to think

that the Son Of God would leave the throne of heaven
& come to earth as a man
to die on a cross & conquer death & the grave

**ALL in order to give people JUST what they needed
for this temporal and vapor of a life**

**these people JUST wanted
a free lunch from Jesus**

but Jesus came to give them
New Resurrection Life – For Eternity

and so in John 6 - right after Jesus says this –
the people start questioning him, and challenging him,

**because it looks like he may not
Satisfy their “here & now” needs**

& so, Jesus says – in

John 6:35 (NLT)

35 Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

But, Jesus is talking about eternal hunger, & eternal thirst –
Jesus is talking about Eternal Life

and we know he is - because Jesus ends this statement - in

John 6:40 (NLT)

40 For it is my Father’s will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day.”

**THAT is what we TRULY NEED
& THAT is WHAT Jesus came to TRULY BRING**

But **THAT** was **not** what the **people wanted** to **hear** –
they **wanted Jesus** to **give them** their **best life now**

And **so**, in and **one** of the **saddest verses** in the **entire Bible**,
we read – in

John 6:66 (NLT) (note the numbers)

66 At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him.

And **then** in the **very next verse**, we **read** this

John 6:67 (NLT)

67 Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, “Are you also going to leave?”

And **that's** my **question** for **you today**

will you **turn away** from **Jesus** **because** he **came** to **give you**
New Resurrection Life For Eternity

INSTEAD of **JUST** **meeting** you're **“here & now”** **needs**
in **this temporal life?**

Guys - God knows it all

he **knows Eternity** in **heaven**

& he **knows** this **Temporal, Vapor** of a **Life**

& Jesus Christ came - to offer you Eternal Resurrection Life

Which is ETERNALLY more important than him fixing your
“here & now” circumstances in this temporal life

Back in the story of the raising of Lazarus, Jesus said – in

John 11:25–26 (NLT)

25 . . . “I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying.

26 Everyone who lives in me and believes in me will never ever die. Do you believe this . . . ?”

[repeat vs]

If you will put your full faith in Jesus Christ today –
if you will Believe & Receive him into your life

Then Jesus WILL BE WITH YOU

through all the Trials & Difficulties of this life

THAT is actually God's promise to his Children

That he will be WITH US

& he will CARRY us – THRU this life

but much, much, more importantly –
Jesus will give you

New, Eternal, Resurrection Life

**When you put your full faith in Jesus Christ
he promises to send you the HOLY SPIRIT**

**who is the COMFORTER - & is the HELPER –
& is the POWER of God in you**

**& that's because - God promises to be WITH YOU
& to carry you through this life – AS his son or daughter**

But please hear me - this Temporal, Fleeting Life

**is NOT why the Son Of God
gave his life and conquered death & the grave on your behalf**

**Jesus did that – to offer you Real Eternal Life
& he did it so that you can be with him in heaven for Eternity**

**and the Bible says the only other option for eternity
is to Be Separated from God - because of our sin**

Eternal, Resurrection Life – is WHY Jesus came

**& HIS Resurrection was to
Conquer Death & The Grave - on your behalf**

**so that – BY believing & Receiving Him - you could live
in Eternal Resurrection Life - in the presence of God**

the Bible is clear - sin separates us from God

and the only answer God gives us

is to have our sins paid for and forgiven
through faith in Jesus Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

*17 . . . anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person.
The old life is gone; a new life has begun!*

It is us BELONGING to Christ – Thru FAITH

that Ends our Old life

& Gives us - New Eternal Resurrection Life

Please, don't miss it, don't be deceived
by this world - or by your own desires

Listen carefully to God's Word - in

1 Corinthians 15:19 (NLT)

19 And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

And so, I want to give you a chance right now –
To *Belong to Jesus Christ*

To Believe Him, & Receive him into your life
AS Your *Savior & Lord*

And to receive the *New Eternal Resurrection Life*

that Jesus purchased with his OWN Life
& that Jesus *Freely Offers* you - today

John 1:12 (ESV)

12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God,

And when you do that - & you become a *Child Of God*

& God's promise is that he will be WITH YOU
in this *Temporal & Fleeting Life*

He will Never Leave you & He will Never Forsake you

AND - he will give you the Holy Spirit
to Lead & Guide, & Empower your life

But much, much, much, more importantly

God's promise is
he will give you *New Eternal Resurrection Life*

& so – I'm going to give you an opportunity

to make a stand for your faith in Jesus Christ
on this Resurrection Sunday

I'm going to pray - & then I'd like to ask you
to get up out of your seat and make your way to the cross

As a tangible way of saying

Lord Jesus I Believe, & I Receive
the New Eternal Resurrection Life that you came to give me

Let's Pray
