

Top119 - **What CAN The Resurrection Mean? - Luke 24:1-6**

My Wife & I have a friend - *who we started our first church with -*  
who used to always say *“What does that mean to ME & MY Life?”*

She said it “tongue in cheek”- kind of ‘imitating’ our culture

But that IS what our CULTURE is like, isn’t it?

Actually - that IS what our “Human NATURE” is like, isn’t it?

The Internal question that often Drives our response to what  
we SEE & HEAR - is . . .

*“What does that mean to ME & MY Life?”*

*Why Should I care about THAT?*

*What Good is that to ME?*

We may not LIKE the way that sounds - but honestly -  
It’s the Most Natural Response we have

So . . . Go Ahead & Ask

*“What does the Resurrection mean to ME & MY Life?”*

No, No - WAIT a Minute - Maybe You should ASK instead:

*“What CAN the Resurrection mean to ME & MY Life”*

Because - even tho you’re HERE on EASTER Sunday  
Maybe you’ve NEVER taken the time to DECIDE

*“What CAN the Resurrection of Jesus Christ -  
Really & Tangible - MEAN to Me & My Life”*

Let’s Pray - & We’ll See

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Let me just say - God DESIRES for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ to mean to YOU - *Personally* - ALL that I'm about to share

*But . . .* it is NOT automatic - That's why I say  
"What CAN the Resurrection mean to you"

The Bible clearly says - YOU & I have a ROLE - in whether the Resurrection means anything to us (*personally*) - OR NOT

& HERE is our ROLE - You & I MUST Decide *Whether or Not*

We will put our FULL Faith & Trust in WHO Jesus Christ IS  
& in *WHAT* His Resurrection Means

*THAT* - is the 'Tipping Point' - *THAT* - is The Fulcrum

*THAT* is the DECISION that Determines whether the Resurrection of Jesus Christ Means ANYTHING to you & your life - or NOT

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We've done a 3-Part series for Easter this year

2 weeks ago we looked at Jesus APPROACHING the Cross

Last Week - we looked at Jesus ON the Cross

Today - we look at the VICTORY of Jesus - IN the Resurrection !

& I'd like to SHARE with you today - Something about where you 'FIT' in each of these 3-PHASES of Christ's Life on the earth

In other words:

Where do you FIT - As Jesus is APPROACHING the Cross

Where do you FIT - As Jesus is ON the Cross

Where do you FIT - in the Victory of Jesus - IN the Resurrection

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If you'd like to WATCH or LISTEN to all 3 of these Messages -  
You can ASK us for them (Connection Ctr)

When you walked in today - You MAY have been handed  
Last week's Study called - "*Messages From The Cross*"

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So Let's Get Started - - Where You do You FIT  
As Jesus was APPROACHING the CROSS

Jesus Christ was Living a PERFECTLY SINLESS Life  
& He was Teaching us about GOD - & the Kingdom of Heaven

But YOU (during that time) - You were LOST in your Sin

**Rom Ch 3 Says**

**We were ALL under the Power of Sin (v.9)  
Not ONE of us was Righteous (v.10)**

**None of us were Wise  
None of us were Seeking God (v.11)**

**In our path - was only Destruction & Misery (v.16)**

**We had No Idea where to find True Peace (v.17)  
& we had no Reverence or Knowledge of God (.v18)**

<p>The <u>Truth</u> is - <u>While Jesus</u> was <u>APPROACHING</u> the <u>Cross</u> <u>We</u> were on our <u>way</u> - to <u>HELL</u></p>
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We were living FOR our Sin - & in the RESULTS of our SIN

**& Romans 6:23 says (ESV)**  
***23 For the wages of sin is death . . .***

While Jesus was APPROACHING the Cross -

We were separated from God *BY* our SIN - & we were headed to a FAIR & JUST Judgment From God - *FOR* our Sin

You see - God is Perfectly HOLY & JUST  
& For God to REMAIN HOLY & JUST - He MUST JUDGE Sin

& *the WAGES* - the JUST Payment for Sin - *is DEATH*

Not just Death in this LIFE - But Eternal Death -  
Being Separated from God for Eternity

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But the Story Doesn't HAVE to end there - *For You & Your LIFE*  
Because the Story doesn't end there - in the life of JESUS

**Listen to ALL of Romans 6:23 says (ESV)**

***23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.***

HOW can that BE? - If God MUST Judge our SIN  
How can He GIVE us - the FREE GIFT of Eternal Life?

By PLACING Our Sin - UPON Jesus Christ  
& JUDGING HIM - In our Place

When Jesus Christ Went to the Cross  
He Carried the Judgment of Your Sin - In Your Place  
& He Paid the Full Penalty for Your Sin - In Your Place

**Isaiah 53:5 Says**

He was **PIERCED** for our **REBELLION**

He was **CRUSHED** for our **SINS**

He was **PUNISHED** so we could have **PEACE**

He was Mortally WOUNDED so we could be *Eternally HEALED*

When Jesus was ON His WAY to the CROSS  
YOU were LOST in your SIN

But - What CAN the CROSS of Jesus Christ  
*Mean to YOU & Your Life . . . ?*

It CAN Mean that Jesus TOOK the Full Penalty that was due  
For ALL of Your Sin - & He PAID it - in YOUR Place

It CAN mean that HE was CRUSHED for YOUR Sin  
It CAN mean that HE was BROKEN so YOU could be Whole  
It CAN mean that HE was WOUNDED so YOU could be Healed

It CAN mean ALL That - - & THAT is the Free Gift of Eternal Life that God offers you TODAY
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God MUST be JUST - & so He MUST JUDGE SIN

But because of His Great Love for You  
God Himself - *IN Jesus Christ* - Took that Judgment in your place

**Romans 3:26 says**

***God is both Just AND the Justifier  
of the one who has FAITH in Jesus Christ***

& THOSE Words - *Right there* - "*The one who has FAITH in Jesus*"

THAT's how you DECIDE - what the CROSS & the RESURRECTION -  
CAN mean to *You & Your Life*

Because - When you Put your FAITH in Jesus Christ . . .  
God sees you as SO Identified WITH Jesus -  
That What Jesus has done - YOU GET CREDIT FOR

**ROMANS 6** spells this out

That your True FAITH in Jesus Christ - SO UNITES you to Jesus  
That What Jesus DID - God sees YOU as having DONE

That's WHY the Bible says that THRU Your FAITH in Jesus Christ  
The Penalty for your sin - Has been PAID IN FULL - *Tetelestai*

**2Cor 5:21** says - Thru Your FAITH

*Jesus Christ became the OFFERING to pay  
the Full Penalty for Your Sin*

*& then He gives You HIS Perfect Righteousness  
Putting you in RIGHT STANDING with God*

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The Question today is . . .

*What CAN the Resurrection Mean to YOU & YOUR Life*

But FIRST - you have to understand the Miracle of Identification  
That comes BY You Putting Your Faith in Jesus Christ

& only THEN can Understand what the Resurrection  
*CAN mean to YOU & YOUR Life*

**Romans 6:3-4** says

When we are Joined to Christ Thru FAITH -  
We become UNITED with him in His DEATH to Sin

& JUST AS we are UNITED with Jesus in His DEATH to SIN -  
We are ALSO UNITED with Him in His Resurrection

**Romans 6:5 (NLT)**

***5 Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was.***

The MIRACLE of us putting our Faith in Jesus Christ  
is that we BECOME UNITED With Him . . .

in *BOTH* His Full Payment for our Sin  
*AND* in His RESURRECTION LIFE

*THAT - is the GOOD NEWS !!!*

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*So Now - What CAN the Resurrection MEAN to You & Your Life?*

If you will COMMIT - BY FAITH  
to be UNITED with Jesus Christ as Your SAVIOR

God says - *HIS* Resurrection Life -  
Will Become *YOUR* Resurrection Life

Which means - What Jesus DID in the Resurrection  
You Will also DO

**in John 14:19 - Jesus said (ESV)**

***19 . . . Because I live, you also will live.***

**in John 11:25–26 - Jesus Said (ESV)**

***25 . . . “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me,  
though he die, yet shall he live,  
26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die . . .***

But then Jesus added One More Sentence at the end of V.26  
He said - *Do you believe this?”*

The Bible says - Jesus Christ *IS* the Resurrection & the Life -  
& ALL who are UNITED to Him by Faith - Will NEVER DIE

But WHETHER that TRUTH  
has Any EFFECT *on You & YOUR Life*

is Determined by YOUR ANSWER  
to the last question from Jesus in V.26 - - - *Do you believe this?*

Because Truly Believing - By FAITH - UNITES You to Jesus  
In Both His PAYMENT for Your Sin - & in His VICTORY over Death

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The DEATH of Jesus was REAL  
& MORE Brutal than we could imagine

& when it was over - His followers begged for His body -  
wrapped Him in grave clothes, & laid Him in the Tomb

& He laid there three days

**But then - in Luke 24:1-6 we read (NLT)**

***1 But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared.***

***2 They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance.***

***3 So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus.***

***4 As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes.***

***5 The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive?***

***6 He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! . . .***

WHY are you looking among the Dead - for the LIVING

Jesus isn't DEAD - He IS ALIVE

Death Can't Hold Him - The Grave Can't Hold Him

Jesus is made a MOCKERY of Death & the Grave - & ALL those who are UNITED to Him by True FAITH - will do the SAME !!

His Victory over Death & the Grave is FINAL

& OUR Victory *IN HIM* - over Death & the Grave - is FINAL

For those who have put their Faith in Jesus Christ - ALL death does is get RID of this - *No Good - Falling Apart - Earth Bound - BODY*

**1 Corinthians 15:50–55 (NLT)**

***50 . . . These dying bodies cannot inherit what will last forever.***

***. . .***

***53 For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies.***

***54 Then, when our dying bodies have been transformed into bodies that will never die, this Scripture will be fulfilled: "Death is swallowed up in victory.***

***THAT - is WHAT the Resurrection CAN Mean to You & Your Life !!***

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But is that ALL - that the Resurrection

*CAN Mean To You & Your Life?* - No, it's NOT

If you want to know MORE about what the Resurrection *Means for You - Eternally* - ASK for the 5-Pt Series on HEAVEN - CD/DVD

& LEARN MORE about what Putting your Full Faith & Trust in Jesus Christ means for you - in Eternity

& even tho That IS ENOUGH - That's Not ALL  
that the Resurrection *CAN Mean to You & Your Life*

**John 3:16 (ESV)**

**16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.**

The Word HAVE there Means - A PRESENT POSSESSION !!

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Listen - the Concept of EASTER - is the BIRTH of NEW LIFE

The CRESCENDO of that New Life - is AT the Resurrection  
But the BIRTH of that New Life - Can be TODAY

Jesus says in Jn Ch 3 - You MUST Be BORN AGAIN  
*THAT* is the Birth of the New Life . . .

& THAT happens when you Put your FAITH in Jesus Christ  
Turning from your life of DEATH - & Receiving NEW LIFE in Christ

**1 John 5:11–12 (NLT)**

**11 And this is what God has testified: He has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.**

**12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have God's Son does not have life.**

Whoever *HAS* the Son - *HAS* New Life - TODAY

Jesus Christ will come into your *DEAD LIFE*  
& He will give you *NEW LIFE* - TODAY

The FREE GIFT of God is Life for ETERNITY  
*AND* - NEW Life in Jesus Christ - TODAY

A Life of KNOWING God - COMMUNING with Him

A Life of KNOWING He's AT Work in all things - For Your GOOD  
& that He will NEVER Leave you Nor Forsake You

It's a NEW LIFE of Daily Relationship  
with the Almighty, Creator God

Who Gave Himself for you - in Jesus Christ  
So that you could be HIS for ETERNITY

**John 1:12-13 (NLT)**

***12 But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.***

***13 They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.***

The Resurrection Life in Jesus Christ - is FOR TODAY  
& You can start Experiencing  
the VICTORY of that Resurrection Life - TODAY

As a CHILD of God - Born Again - Into God's Permanent Family

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*What CAN the Resurrection Mean to You & Your Life?*

*It Can Mean Everything* - Starting with New Life TODAY  
& Continuing into ETERNAL Life

Or . . . *It Can Mean NOTHING* - You Decide

God has Done His Part - He is ready to Receive you  
into His Family - & Give you NEW LIFE

He's READY - God is READY!

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& I'm going to give you an Opportunity to Make a Decision  
to be UNITED to Jesus Christ BY FAITH - *in Just a Minute*

But - Before I do - Can I tell you a Story - Happened THIS WEEK

A few years ago - I bought this car - with computer problems  
(*Remember when Cars had ENGINES & NOT Computers?*)

So - We've had trouble w/ this car's computer - & a few weeks ago  
it seemd like the gas guage STOPPED working

The guage got to empty - I filled the car up  
& it only took 5 or 6 gallons (*& the 2nd time I made SURE*)

& so - I decided I knew better than the Gas Guage  
& So I began IGNORING what the SIGN in front of me was saying

& when the guage got to zero - it started FLASHING at me  
Which was intially kind of Annoing

But after awhile - I became IMMUNE to it !! - - *[repeat]*

Until suddenly - when I was in lane next to the fast lane - at NIGHT -  
ON the NASCAR track they call the Temecula Frwy

Suddenly - The engine starts Losing Power  
& I'm saying - NO WAY am I running out of Gas

I checked it - I confirmed it - I knew that SIGN in Front of me  
was WRONG - *I knew it*

But Still - the car was running out of Gas - At Night -  
ON a Frwy that everyone thinks is the last lap of the Indy 500

& I PANICKED a bit - Not for myself - But because I had my Wife -  
& TWO of my GRANDBABIES with me

& I was AFRAID - of what my STUPIDITY  
MIGHT MEAN to them

But God - in His GRACE - Got us to the side  
& stopped us in the safest possible place -  
where we could get the kids immediately to safety

AND He had my daughter following me - to cover for my stupidity -  
. . . & so the only thing that was hurt - was my PRIDE

Because I thought I knew better  
than the clear flashing sign in front of me

I thought I knew better - Than the Computer that was running my car

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Please - Don't do that here today

God has Brought you here - & He has given you  
a Clear flashing SIGN - In the RESURRECTION of Jesus  
Don't think - in your PRIDE - that you know better than your Creator

God has SPOKEN Loud & Clear to you  
that you NEED Jesus Christ in your LIFE - for NOW & for Eternity

The SIGN of the Resurrection -  
is that you Need to be UNITED to Jesus Christ by Faith

So that you can SHARE in His NEW LIFE NOW  
AND in His Resurrection Life - For ETERNITY

Don't make the Mistake  
of Ignoring the Clear Sign of the Resurrection

YOU Decide what the Resurrection *CAN mean to you*

The outcome of me ignoring the signs on my dashboard -  
was an hour of stress & humiliation on the side of a Frwy

The outcome of you ignoring the signs  
of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ . . .

Are ETERNAL DYING instead of ETERNAL LIFE -  
& continued Damage & Destruction - in your life of sin here

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I'm gonna ask you right now - to go ALL IN  
to put your Full Faith in Jesus Christ

To Receive Him as your SAVIOR - & Make Him Your LORD

RECEIVE the Free Gift of Eternal Life in Jesus Christ

Let's Pray