Sunday, April 21, 2019 Pastor Brad Davis I Am



But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31

- John records 7 "I am" statements made by Jesus that are <u>metaphors</u> which speak to His <u>redemptive</u> mission
 - o I am the **resurrection** and the **life**

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

- Jesus made this statement during Lazarus' funeral
- He not only **declared** it, but **fulfilled** it

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you."

Mark 16:1-7

He is not <u>here</u>, He is <u>risen</u>!

This <u>truth</u> is the <u>defining</u> characteristic of Christianity

But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1 Corinthians 15:12-19

- Christ has not been **raised**
- All of our preaching is useless
- Our **faith** is Christ is **worthless**
- Everyone **witnesses** of Christ is a **liar**
- Christianity is just a **fairy tale**
- **All** humanity is **captive** to sin
- The **dead** in Christ are lost in **hell**
- Christians are the most <u>foolish</u> people of all

and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms,

Ephesians 1:19-20

- The same <u>power</u> that raised Christ from the dead is <u>alive</u> in us
- If you believe in Jesus, you will <u>live</u> even though you <u>die</u>

And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

1 John 5:11-12

• What is your **testimony**?