

## REVIVE CHURCH—RESURRECTION 2024

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Matthew 28:1-6 (NKJV) 1 Now after the Sabbath, as the first [day] of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead [men.] 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 “He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

The gospel of Jesus Christ, the Christian faith is all about the person of Jesus Christ who is fully alive. He came to die for the sins of the world, but death would not be the end, He would rise from the dead. The only One ever to prophecy His own death and resurrection. *We are not meant to separate the suffering of the cross and the victory of the resurrection for both are essential.*

**There is no resurrection apart from going through the cross. You cannot go around it. You only enter into true resurrection life by entering into the finished work of Jesus Christ. There is one entry point, one door that brings life and that is through Jesus death! We must come to the end of ourselves and be born again by the Holy Spirit.** This message is absurd and illogical to those who are spiritually dead and by rejecting the message of the cross they are rejecting Jesus Christ and His grace. *However, to those being saved the cross is the power of God. If we look at the cross correctly we see death but we see life eternal.*

**2 Corinthians 4:10 (NKJV) always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.** Think about this- **Jesus Christ, the eternal God bears the marks of the cross for all eternity. In heaven one of the major ways the angels, elders, saints see Him is as the slain Lamb.**

**Revelation 5:6a(NKJV) And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain,**

**We must like Jesus, and every committed follower bear the marks of Jesus death so that we may be witnesses of His life.** The marks of death really point us to His life!

**Song of Songs 1:13 (NKJV) A bundle of myrrh [is] my beloved to me, That lies all night between my breasts. (Myrrh is the embalming spice, reminder of death and sacrifice)**

**The death and Resurrection of Christ are historical events which are the foundation of everything that we believe.**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-8** Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, **if you hold firmly to the word** I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of **first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles, and last of all he appeared to me also, as to one abnormally born.**

**1 Corinthians 15:17** And if Christ has not been raised then our faith is worthless and we are still in our sins.

**If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said;**

Jesus death and resurrection is the most important event in the history of the universe. Without this truth, we have no hope.

Your belief, surrender, faith in this Jewish Son of Man, Son of God will transform everything in this life and secure everlasting life in the age to come.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is clearly laid out in 1Corinthians 15 These truths are both foundational and profound and must be held on to!

Believe in, live for and Preach the Good news of Jesus. Not your agenda, not self help, not the latest cultural emphasis. Preach Jesus Christ, don't change it, don't dumb it down, release the Gospel and the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

1<sup>st</sup> importance-Hold firmly to the word.

1. Jesus Christ died for your sins!
2. He was buried!
3. He was raised to life on the third day (Not just His spirit, His flesh... He did not see decay) (approx. 104 references to the resurrection in the NT.)
4. He appeared many times over a span of 40 days to those He had chosen. Different disciples, all the Apostles, at one point 500 people at the same time.

These beliefs are requirements to be saved from your sin and be propelled into His life. You must believe! Just believing in the historical account however does not save you from your sins!

His finished work must be received by faith through grace! *Saving faith must be received personally. We all must be born again by Faith so that Jesus finished work can break the power of sin in our lives and restore the image of God in us.*

**Romans 10:9-10** (NKJV) 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

**Resurrection is also a present reality -**

*John 11:23-26 – NASB Jesus \*said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha \*said to Him, “ I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “**I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?**”*

*Martha was looking forward to the resurrection which she should. She had hope for a promise far off, but did not have active faith for resurrection power here and now. Jesus said “**I am the resurrection**”. Wherever Jesus is, whenever He shows up there is resurrection power! Where faith is active in Jesus anything is presently possible. **I AM is the ultimate statement of self-sufficiency, self-existence, and immediate presence.** (Ex. 3:14)*

How could the church seem powerless when the Scripture states the same power that raised Christ from the dead lives in us.

*Romans 8:11 (NKJV) But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*

We will never let go of what Jesus did for all eternity! It is however a travesty to keep this as an isolated, historical event and not have the Spiritual insight to understand that when I received His finished work in my life and died to sin I entered into His resurrection and that **looks like something** right here and right now. I was dead apart from Christ but now I am alive! Jesus is alive!

The world around us needs walking evidence that the disciples of Jesus Christ abide in resurrection power today. **Jesus died for you is essential , but equally important is that Jesus resurrection means He lives for you.**

*Colossians 2:12-15 (NKJV) 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with [Him] through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.*

**We were meant to live victorious as Jesus followers. Jesus death paid full provision for our life. His blood paid the price and wiped out our sin, the punishment of breaking God's law and every accusation of the enemy. Jesus made a public spectacle of Satan and forever disarmed every principality and power that was against us. Jesus is the triumphant victor and when we believe in Him we join Him.**

*1 Corinthians 15:57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

**Through the cross and resurrection Christ has provided in the following:**

- Freedom from an eternity spent apart from God in hell, gains us eternal life
- Fellowship with God-
- Freedom from all guilt and condemnation
- Deliverance from oppression and control of Satan, protection (Eph. 2:1-2)
- The cross of Jesus heals us from pain, sickness and suffering (Is. 53)
- The cross freed us from worry, anxiety and fear
- Jesus Cross defeats death forever
- Frees us from Satan, our sin and death to our old nature
- Provides Peace, provision
- Power and authority and much much more!
- The cross represents one perfect, all sufficient sacrifice.

**Its so incredibly important to recognize what we have access to as children of God paid for by the blood of Jesus, and entered into by you and I when we believe.**

**Resurrection is also a future real event.** Jesus resurrection secured our resurrection if our faith is in Him

*Philippians 3:20-21* <sup>20</sup> For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; <sup>21</sup> who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

*1 Cor. 15:50-58 (NKJV)* Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: “Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?” The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Five specific changes in our resurrection bodies in **1 Cor. 15-Corruptible/Incorruptible, Mortal/Immortality, Dishonor/Glory, Weakness/Power, Natural/Spiritual**

When Christ appears we will be transformed into His likeness. We will be clothed with a resurrected body that will never die. God will literally take decomposed bodies that have no form and His countenance will call them to everlasting life. **All blood bought disciples that have died or are alive at His coming will be re-created into our heavenly bodies it does not matter if we were cremated, died at sea whatever. This flesh cannot inherit the fullness of heaven it is corruptible so we will be transformed into our body that reveals His glory** We will declare “Death is swallowed up in victory.” “O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”

*1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (NKJV)* 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive [and] remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

*Acts 1:11 (NKJV)* who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This [same] Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.”

## Revival groups

1. Discuss the essential elements of the Gospel.
2. Why is it so important to be reminded of the Gospel truth?
3. Why are both the cross and empty grace essential to the Gospel?
4. Discuss resurrection past, present and future and why we need the historical, present and future understanding.
5. Discuss what Jesus provided for us through the cross and resurrection. Testify to what He has done. Where are you still needing some breakthrough?

