

THE MYSTERIES OF CHRIST

Week 3: The Resurrection:

1. Victory over Death:

- **Message:** The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the ultimate victory over death, demonstrating His power over sin and the grave. It provides believers with hope for eternal life and assures them of their own resurrection.

- Supporting Verses:

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 (NKJV) Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

- 1 Corinthians 15:55-57: (NKJV)

“O¹ Death, where *is* your sting?
O Hades, where *is* your victory?”

⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law. ⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

- **John 11:25-26: NIV** "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?'

- **Example:** Just as Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (**John 11:1-44**) NIV, His own resurrection demonstrates His power to overcome death and grant eternal life to believers.

2. Foundation of Christian Faith:

- **Message:** The resurrection is the foundation of the Christian faith, affirming Jesus' identity as the Son of God and validating His teachings and claims. It is the central event that validates the gospel message and offers assurance of salvation to believers.

- **Supporting Verses:**

- **1 Corinthians 15:14 (NIV):** "And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith."

- **Romans 10:9 (NIV):** "If you declare with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

- **Example:** The apostles boldly proclaimed the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the core of their message, leading to the conversion of thousands (**Acts 2:22-41 NIV**).

3. Assurance of Future Resurrection:

- **Message:** The resurrection of Jesus Christ assures believers of their own future resurrection and eternal life with God. It gives hope in the face of suffering, persecution, and death, knowing that death is not the end but the gateway to eternal glory.

- **Supporting Verses:**

- **1 Thessalonians 4:14 NIV:** "For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him."

- **1 Corinthians 15:20-22 NIV:** "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep... For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive."

- **Example:** Believers in the early church, facing persecution and martyrdom, found courage and strength in the hope of resurrection and eternal life (**Hebrews 11:35b-38 NIV**).