

Easter Sunday 2024

Romans 5:12; John 5:21-30; John 11:17-27; John 10:18

“He Came to Raise the Dead”

Introduction: The two ordinances of the Christian church testify to the importance of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Baptism is symbolic of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:4). The Lords Supper which commemorates the death of Christ is to be observed until the return of Christ indicating He rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 11:26). When the apostles of the Lord were sent out on mission they were sent out as eyewitnesses of the resurrection of Christ (Acts 10:39-43).

I. The Necessity of the Resurrection of Christ (Romans 5:12)

- A. The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). When Adam sinned all of humanity became subject to death (Romans 5:12; Genesis 2:17). God placed humanity in a perfect environment with access to the means to live forever. Sin is the infection that causes death. The holiness of God demands the strictest consequence for sin (1 John 3:4; Romans 3:19; Romans 7:24).
- B. Scripture describes the fallen state of humanity as “dead in trespasses and sin” (Ephesians 2:1). What is the necessity of resurrection? Resurrection is the solution to death. God did not want fallen humanity to live forever in a corrupted state (Genesis 3:22-24).

II. The Resurrection and the Life (John 5:21-30; John 11:17-27)

- A. The Lord Jesus boldly and publicly identifies Himself as the source of resurrection. Many people mistakenly believe they can honor the Father and dismiss the Son. You can't get to the Father without the Son (John 14:6). The Father, The Son, and The Holy Spirit always existed as one Divine Being (Psalm 90:1-2).
- B. We need to pass from death to life. Jesus is the only means to pass from death to life. Everyone will be resurrected. Some to the resurrection of life and some to the resurrection of condemnation (Revelation 20:11-15).
- C. The resurrection of life is for those who received eternal life through placing their faith in Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior (Proverbs 11:4). The righteousness of Christ is imputed to us by grace through faith.
- D. Lazarus was dead for four days. His body was decomposing. He was completely helpless. It does not matter how bad the situation is or how long it goes on God has all power! (Ezekiel 37:1-2).

- E. How can some people rise from the dead while others never experience death? (Hebrews 11:5). The dead in Christ will rise and the alive in Christ will be transformed and be caught up to meet the Lord in the air (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

III. No Man Ever spoke Like This (John 10:18)

- A. Jesus Christ is the only Person in history to predict the details of their death and the timing of their own resurrection. Thousands of people were crucified during the reign of the Roman empire but something about the way Jesus died was unique (Isaiah 53:7).
- B. He was severely beaten beyond recognition. As they nailed Him to the cross He prayed “Father forgive them for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). He was mocked and ridiculed as He hung on the cross for six hours.
- C. Crucifixion is a slow painful death by asphyxiation. When it was time He died at will (Luke 23:44-46). When the work was completed, when the wrath of God was satisfied, when the blood of Jesus was shed and sin atoned for it was finished and Jesus died and three days later He got up just like He said.
- D. Eternal life begins when you believe on Jesus. The Holy Spirit regenerates you and you become a new creation. You are placed in the body of Christ and the Spirit of Christ indwells you. The indwelling Holy Spirit is the earnest, the guarantee that you will be resurrected or raptured. This is why Christ is called the firstborn from the dead. As we patiently await the return of the Lord we are to walk in the newness of life. Yielding our bodies as instruments of righteousness. (Romans 6:1-14).

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified” (Romans 8:28-30)

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