

Topical Message –31 March 2024

“Which Way Will You Be Resurrected?”

Opening

*What is the center of relationship w/ God Almighty?

*Some might say knowing God’s Law & Word

*Some might say the life of Jesus Christ

*Some might say the death of Jesus on the cross

*But I submit to you that if Jesus didn’t rise from the dead, then nothing else matters

Why are the others not the center?

*W/o the resurrection, knowing the Word & learning of the life & death of Jesus is only temporary

Why is Jesus’ resurrection so important to me though?

*B/c we can be infused w/ the same abilities as Jesus Christ was – He takes our sin & we take His nature

So today, here are 3 amazing infusions available to us b/c of the resurrection of Jesus Christ

#1 – Jesus’ resurrection can infuse us w/ POWER

Turn to Matt 22:23-33 – Sadducees don’t know God

Read Vs 23-28

1. 1st question, what was she feeding these guys!
2. Sadducees only believed in material, not spirit.
 - a. No resurrection so they were “*sad you see*”
3. They here describe Levirate marriage.
 - a. Marrying to continue the family name.
 - b. Want to show no resurrection by using Law

Read Vs 29-33

1. Vs 30 – the specific answer
 - a. In the resurrection, we’re not married
 - b. Our spiritual life is so much better than being connected to *just one*
 - c. Special connect to one on earth, is to picture our oneness with Christ to come.
2. Vs 31-32 – more of the specific answer
 - a. God already declared life after death in OT
 - b. Vs 32 is quoted from God calling Moses to service at the burning bush.

- c. Jesus makes His entire argument here based on the fact that we can believe the whole Bible right down to the very tense of the verbs!
- 3. Vs 29 – Jesus gives the heart of their problem
 - a. The Bible is written beyond earthly means.
 - b. The Bible declares God does more than just routine things by His power
 - c. God has the ability to interrupt the natural to bring about a supernatural change!
- 4. They err not knowing the power of God

Supporting Scriptures

- 1. The man Jesus didn't just *know of* divine power
 - a. Read Rom 1:3-4 – Although born as a man, the power of Jesus' resurrection proves Him to be the Son of God
- 2. As Paul said in Phil, *I want to* know this power
 - a. Read Phil 3:10 – As we come to know Jesus, we learn of the value, power and ability that's within His resurrection

#2 – Jesus’ resurrection can infuse us with HOPE

Turn to Acts 26:1-8 – Paul on Trial before Agrippa

Read Vs 1-8

1. Paul’s being judged b/c of his hope in God’s 3rd & final promise to Israel (a Messiah) & that’s it’s been fulfilled
 - a. This is the thing every Jew was longing for
2. If Jews believe God can insert the long-awaited Messiah into life at any time, shouldn’t be stretch to believe God would raise Him from the dead
 - a. Already believe in a miracle working God

Supporting Scriptures

1. Read Job 19:25-27 – Job long hoped to live together w/ God in resurrected life
2. Read I Pet 1:3 – What was Job’s hope but to be born into the family of God & to be able to live with constant hope

Turn to I Cor 15:12-26 – *Essential Connection*

Read Vs 12-16

1. Some said Jesus rose, but He's the only One
2. There's direct connection between Jesus rising from dead & all believers rising into eternal life
3. Denying the resurrection of ALL believers means you also have to deny Christ's resurrection

Read Vs 17-19

1. Believing in Jesus becomes empty of value if He's not bringing eternal life to all that believe
2. Entirety of Christianity is based in the objective, verifiable evidence that Jesus rose from the dead
3. If all Jesus gives us is good moral teachings for this life – then we still live in hopelessness

Read Vs 20

1. The resurrection is as a harvest (firstfruits, harvest and the gleanings)
2. Christ's R is proof that there's more R to come

Read Vs 21-26

1. Just as we live the results of our physical head Adam, we can live with the spiritual results of our spiritual Head Jesus
2. The purpose has always been to gather all things back unto God for joyous relationship
3. Jesus' resurrection brings hope for an eternal life but also purpose in this life

Supporting Scriptures

1. Read II Sam 12:21-23 – David's hope of resurrection affected the way he lived life now
2. Read I Pet 1:21 – Resurrection is intended to build up our faith and hope in God
 - a. Is there an empty tomb? Then big things are coming for us too!

#3 – Jesus' resurrection can infuse us with LIFE

Turn to Acts 26:9-23 – *More of Paul before Agrippa*

Read Vs 9-23

1. Paul was one way; Jesus came & he repented
2. Just as Jesus' resurrection brought Him life, it also brought Paul new life

Supporting Scriptures

1. Read I Cor 15:32 – There is a life to come
2. Read I Thes 4:14 – We'll be raised before anything happens; we won't miss anything

Turn to John 11:20-26 – *Lazarus Resurrection*

Read Vs 20-26

1. Resurrected life isn't just a concept to learn
2. This power is within Jesus to bring resurrected life

Supporting Scriptures

1. Look over at John 10:7-10 – This is why Jesus came, to bring life
2. John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.....LIFE”

In Closing

Luke 24:46b-47a says, "...Thus it behooved Chris to suffer and to rise from the dead the 3rd day, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations..."

- 1. Do you have God's power flowing thru you?**
- 2. Do you have a true hope flowing thru you?**
- 3. Do you have God's life flowing thru you?**

I want to give you an acronym to remember what E.A.S.T.E.R. really stands for [**E**ventually **A**ll **S**ubmit **T**o **E**ternal **R**esurrection]

Read John 5:28-29 – There is either eternal life or eternal death to come, but you will be resurrected

Tombstone reads

Pause now stranger as you pass by, As you are now so once was I
As I am now so you will be, So consider death and follow me

Passerby was heard to say

To follow you is not my intent, until I know which way you went!

Jesus loves you – choose life