

#1 - INTRODUCTION (v5)

VIDEO: *Easter Nicene Creed*

I. Introduction

1. We're here to celebrate resurrection:
 - (1) Reanimation
 - (2) Resuscitation
 - (3) Resurrection
2. Congregational response
 - (1) He Is Risen.
 - (2) He Is Risen, indeed.
3. Out with the old, in with the new.
4. Dies with the old, live with the new.
5. Listen in non-Christian.



#2 - DIE WITH THE OLD (v6-7)

I. Our Flesh Suffocated (v6a)

- (1) Imagine every thing about you that doesn't cut muster. That doesn't reach the bar. That habitually misses the mark.
 - i. All the things that you say...all the things that you think...all things that you do.
 - ii. Everything that has ever produced shame or resulted in regret.
- (2) No imagine everything about you that you think is good, but you that you may one day find out is insignificant. Everything you're living for that will produce naught, on an eternal scale.
 - i. The things you've treasured, which have no real value.
 - ii. The things you've invested in, which have no real return.
- (3) All of it...every part of who you were....every last bit of wasted time, wasted energy, wasted resources...for the Christian has been suffocated on the cross with Jesus and w/ Jesus breathed its last.

Rom. 8:13: *"For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."*
- (4) This morning we are reminded that the person, formerly known as you...who really only lived for their hopes, their dreams, their vision.
 - i. For a joy that would never fully come, approval that would never fully satisfy, security that would never fully anchor and comfort that would never fully last.
 - ii. Has....been....crucified!
- (5) Stop living like the person you were...that person is dead.
 - i. Crucified along with Christ.

II. Our Sin Obliterated (v6b)

- (1) Not only is our flesh suffocated, but sin obliterated.
- (2) And that person...who you were...who I was....needed to die. They needed to die because sin is pervasive.
- (3) The idolatry of eden produced a new kind of fruit...a dark kind of fruit. We call it sin.
- (4) Sin was infecting and affecting everything we worldview, every identify construct, every desire, every thought, every emotion, every relationship, even every charitable act.

Rom. 6:12: *"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions."*
- (5) In other words, sin was not only separating us from the God who sustains our very being, but subjugating our very will.
- (6) v6 tells us that sin is slavery.
- (7) But no more.
- (8) What was once ruling and reigning in our mortal bodies, has been supplanted by the immortal.
 - i. What was once separating us from God and one another
 - ii. What was once subjugating us our deeds and desires



iii. Has...been....obliterated

(9) The book of Micah says our sins have been tossed into the deepest part of the sea

i. Dive out to the Mariana Trench...go deeper.

(10) Hebrews say our sin are not remembered.

(11) 1 John says they've been washed out, Isaiah says they've been blotted out, Psalam says they've been cast out.

(12) Which means for you God's wrath has been cleared out.

(13) The wrath that he has been storing up against sin...the sin that formerly reigned in your mortal bodies has been satisfied.

(14) So God is no longer against us, but God is for us. He is not storing up wrath for us...but an ocean of grace.

III. Our Desires Liberated (v6c-7)

(1) Not only is our flesh suffocated and sin obliterated...but desires liberated.

Rom. 3:11: "...no one understands; no one seeks for God."

(2) If no one seeks God on their own...then no one seeks good on their own.

i. We know this is true because we have a show called "Real Housewives of Orange County"

ii. I always wondered what "Real Housewives of Marin County" would look like.

iii. Arguments about gluten content. Why she wore the same yoga pants to Trader Joes

(3) In and of yourself, you only desired what is self-motivated, self-generated, or self-interested.

(4) But the cross has set you free to desire what is God-motivated, Spirit generated, and gospel-interested.

i. This is not to restrain your desires...not to suppress your desires...not to abstain from desires....that's not the point.

ii. But to replace the old, weak, insufficient ones, with those that are fuller, deeper, truer.

iii. To desire bigger, wider, and deeper.

Rom. 6:22: "But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life."

(5) In other words, you now have the capacity to desire what God desires.

(6) According to Philippians, this includes that which is honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent...things that are worthy of praise.

(7) And the result is joy!

Isa. 61: "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me...to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound...to give them...the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit...Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice...therefore in their land...they shall have **everlasting joy.**"

i. Not that weak-sauce you call happy. Happy is sappy.

ii. Happy is contingent on circumstance. Joy persists despite them.

- iii. Happy is informed by our emotions. Joy informs the whole of our emotive being.
- iv. Happy only exists in short-bursts. Joy lasts a lifetime.

#3 - LIVE WITH THE NEW (v8-11)

I. Faith Invigorated (v8)

(1) I have preached on the:

- (1) Validity of resurrection
- (2) Necessity of resurrection
- (3) Today = The assurance of the resurrection

1 Cor. 15:14-17: *"And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised...And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins."*

(2) The resurrection affects our "belief"

- i. piteuo = faith

(3) If it was just the cross...and not the empty grave:

- i. Your flesh may have been suffocated...but without the newness of life.
- ii. Your sins may have been obliterated...but no end.
- iii. Your desires may have been liberated...but with nothing new to desire.
- iv. Without the resurrection, every claim, every promise, every hope...is null and void.
- v. It's like the promise to pay a debt...but never sending a check.
- vi. It's like a brochure for a vacation spot that doesn't exist.
- vii. It's like a door out, but with no key.

(4) The cross and the resurrection are complementary necessities that work together. When they do, it is where:

- i. Covenant is ratified.
- ii. Claims are actualized.
- iii. Authority is recognized.

(5) Faith is invigorated:

Luke 17:5: *"The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"*

(6) Holy Saturday (Silent Saturday)

- (1) Time would have passed and Jesus would have been forgotten in obscurity
- (2) Christianity would not have spread with ferocity and pace, in which it did.
- (3) And, like the disciples in the upper room, following his death and burial...left wondering if we are giving our lives to a hoax...a dream...wishful thinking.

Jn. 20:19: *"On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for **fear** of the Jews..."*



(7) We come together, to have our faith invigorated, along with:

- i. 250 million Americans
- ii. 100 million Mexicans
- iii. 175 million Brazilians
- iv. 68 million Chinese
- v. 80 million Nigerians
- vi. 58 million Germans
- vii. 100 million Russians
- viii. In all, 2.2 Billion people in the world

(8) We come together to have our faith invigorated by being reminded that the tomb is open, the grave is empty, He is not there...for **He is risen**.

- i. **Congregation:** "He Is Risen, Indeed."

II. Promises Authenticated (v9)

(1) Not only is faith invigorated, but promises authenticated.

1 Cor. 15:20; 51, 55-58: *"But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead...Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed...*

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

"O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your sting?"

*The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord **your labor is not in vain.**"*

(2) Every promise, every claim, every word uttered by Jesus comes with the authority of the Holy One of God who has authority over death, as evidenced by an empty grave:

- (1) That every tear shall be wiped
- (2) All things will be work together for your good
- (3) Death is a beginning, not an ending.
- (4) That we can have all hope, all confidence, all assurance that our labor is not in vain.

(3) All because the tomb is open, the grave is empty, He is not there...for **He is risen**.

- i. **Congregation:** "He Is Risen, Indeed."

III. Lives Regenerated (v10-11)

(1) Not only is faith invigorated and promises authenticated...but lives regenerated.

(2) In other words, not only is the old man or woman dead...but you have given a new life, with a renewed mind and regenerated heart.

Titus 3:5: *"He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit..."*

(3) This means every day the Sun comes up, you're new:



- i. Yesterday is gone...today is here.
- ii. Every failing, every regret, every missed mark, is swallowed up with death, leaving us with endless potential, because of limitless grace and boundless mercy, at the onset of every new day.

(4) Is today a new day?

- i. Then why are you still living under yesterday?

(5) Is today a new day?

- i. Then why are you so downcast?

(6) Is today a new day?

- i. Then why are you so hopeless

(7) Every new day, every new sunrise holds the promise of a new beginning, new grace, new change, new purpose because you are a new person, regranted by the Holy Spirit to do new works.

(1) There is no grumpy pants on Easter

(2) There is no grumpy cat on Easter.

(3) There is no sullen, no sulking, no sinking.

(8) Why? Because the tomb is open, the grave is empty, He is not there...for **He is risen.**

- i. **Congregation:** "He Is Risen, Indeed."

#4 - CONCLUSION:

I. In The Cross:

- 1. Flesh Suffocated
- 2. Sin Obliterated
- 3. Desires Liberated

- i. But all of this is in vain, if not for the resurrection.

II. And so, In The Resurrection, we have:

- 1. Faith Invigorated
- 2. Promises Authenticated
- 3. Lives Regenerated

III. This is why we are here each and every Sunday, for the proclamation, adoration, celebration, and a whole lot of alliteration... of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

IV. But especially this Sunday...

(1) Because the tomb is open, the grave is empty, He is not there...for **He is risen.**

- i. **Congregation:** "He Is Risen, Indeed."

VIDEO: *No Other King*

