



**THE Big Deal About the Resurrection
What the Resurrection Means for You and Me
Romans 10:9-13
Mark 16:1-8**

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Happy resurrection day. Jesus Christ walked out of the grave early on Sunday morning three days after He was crucified and nothing has been the same since. Literally, it was the beginning of the end of history.



Today we are examining the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, the most important event in the history of this planet.

It is the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and then His resurrection that makes possible for all of us to be redeemed, to have our sins forgiven and be declared Holy by a Holy God because Jesus paid for our sin there on the cross.

Romans 10:9–13

“If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.”” (NLT)

We are going to look at 18 things the resurrection of Jesus Christ does, and what it means to us today. The resurrection of Jesus and His ongoing ministry for us and with us changes us to be more like Him. We are going to cover some, not all, of what the resurrection does. **The Big #1 is this, Jesus died on the cross for our sin and then walked out the grave proving He has the power to save us from our sin.**

Let’s take a look at the event and then discover what that means and what are His ministries to us right now as we wait for Him to come and get us as He promised He would.

On the evening prior to going to the cross, Jesus said this.

John 14:1–3

“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many rooms; if that were not so, I would have told you, because **I am going there to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, there you also will be.**” (NASB 2020)

And yes, on our journey today, we have just hit **number two, since His resurrection, He has been preparing a place for you and me to be with Him for all eternity at the Father’s house.** It took Him 6 days to make the universe, but He has been preparing a place for us for around 2,000 years now. Here is a quick preview of His work.

Revelation 21:1–2

“Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And **I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**” (NASB 2020)

And **number three is here as well, He is coming back to get us.** When the Father says it is time, then it is time and, I’ll let Paul pick it up from there.

1 Thessalonians 4:14–18

“For if we believe that Jesus died and rose from the dead, so also God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus. For we say this to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who remain,



will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore, comfort one another with these words.” (NASB 2020)

And here is the really fantastic part of that promise, He tells us He will come when the world, as a whole, is pretty much busy doing other things. Just like it is today. For the world, it is BAU, but we know. We are expecting Him, they are not. So, for them, He will come like a thief in the night (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11). The resurrection is a big deal.

Mark 16:1–8

“When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might come and anoint Him. **And very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. They were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone from the entrance of the tomb for us?” And looking up, they noticed that the stone had been rolled away; for it was extremely large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed. But he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; see, here is the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.’ ”** And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.” (NASB 2020)

For those who are faithful members of the heavenly host. This is the most understated thing that they have ever done. I suspect that in the unseen realm, there was celebration, praise, and more but what is reflected to the folks who show up first thing in the morning, is one angel.

Just one angel and he is operating in his role providing a message. First, he tells them don't be amazed, as they look into a totally empty tomb, he even tells them see, here is where He was. Now comes the understatement of all eternity, “He has risen, He is not here, go tell His disciples and tell Peter.”

This angel is operating on behalf of the risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and with the announcement we see **number four, the resurrected Lord wants us to expect miracles when He is involved. Five, He wants those who love Him to not be fearful but encouraged when we encounter His work in this world and remain faithful no matter what we have just gone through.**

Six, those who are faithful and believe no matter what, appear to be rewarded for their faithfulness. Seven, those who love the Lord are important to Him and even after the resurrection, He continues to look out for us. Eight, those who have had a tested faith and have faltered in that faith are no less followers than those who did not falter. Nine, the resurrected Christ seeks out those of His who have faltered in order to bring restoration.

Those women who were there did indeed go back and tell the disciples, and Peter. And John takes that opportunity to tell us about the footrace he has with Peter; one he won no less.

John 20:4–17

“Both of them were running together, but the **other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.** But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. And **she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus**



had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” (ESV)

Remember the Ark of the Covenant? On the top of the Ark of the Covenant was the lid for it, made entirely out of gold, and it was intended to be an atoning cover, a mercy seat, a place where the blood would be applied on behalf of the people on the Day of Atonement.

Exodus 25:17–22

“**You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold.** Two cubits and a half shall be its length, and a cubit and a half its breadth. And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work shall you make them, on the two ends of the mercy seat. **Make one cherub on the one end, and one cherub on the other end. Of one piece with the mercy seat shall you make the cherubim on its two ends. The cherubim shall spread out their wings above, overshadowing the mercy seat with their wings, their faces one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubim be. And you shall put the mercy seat on the top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the testimony that I shall give you. There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel.**” (ESV)

It was there, at the Mercy Seat, that the Lord met with Moses. It was also there, annually on the Day of the Atonement that the High Priest would apply the blood of the sin offering on behalf of the people.

Leviticus 16:14–15

“**And he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy seat on the east side, and in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times. Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat.**” (ESV)

Here in John 20, Mary Magdalene, a follower of Jesus Christ who He had set free from seven demons (Mark 16:9) is the one who looks into the tomb once again and now sees two angels.

Ten, the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ fulfills the and finalizes the need for any future Day of Atonement. We can say that because here we see an angel seated at where His head had been and the other seated at where His feet had been and between them, was where He had been laid and the blood had been applied to all the sin of mankind once and for all. **Eleven, all forgiven sinners are entitled now to enter the Holy of Holies because of the blood that was applied on their behalf by Jesus.**

Hebrews 9:11–14

“But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) **he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, how much more will**



the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.” (ESV)

Matthew 27:50–53

“And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many.” (ESV)

Jesus Christ, who was resurrected on the Feast of First Fruits, along with the first sheaf to wave in front of the Father, is the beginning of the First Resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:20–23

“But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.” (ESV)

Twelve, because Jesus Christ is resurrected, we know, since He is the firstfruits, that those of us who die in the Lord, will also be resurrected as well. He gives each of us the Holy Spirit as the downpayment.

This is an incredibly important point for us to latch onto. Jesus knew, that our flesh is incredibly weak all on its own and we would need the power of the Holy Spirit to do life Jesus' style. The resurrection was the first step; the ascension would be the second step. Recall again point seven, that His followers are those He seeks to look out for. We see Jesus personally invested in this as well as providing the Holy Spirit when He first appears to His disciples on Sunday evening.

John 20:19–22

“On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the disciples had gathered together and locked the doors of the place because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. Just as the Father has sent me, I also send you.” And after he said this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” (NET 2nd ed.)

Number thirteen for us, the resurrected Lord encourages us. Yes, He also provides the Holy Spirit but notice this as well, point fourteen, He commissions us.

This is not the only place where we see the resurrected one commission His followers to go out on His behalf. That is why we have been provided the Holy Spirit.

Do not underestimate the importance of the Holy Spirit being inside each and every follower of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit is our guarantee that what the Lord said He would do, He will indeed finish. Another reason why it was important for the resurrected Lord to give us the Holy Spirit, the enemy. **You see, His resurrection meant that the end of history had begun, and yes, that would be number fifteen.**

But a bit more about the Spirit, because I need to remember it.



2 Corinthians 1:21–22

“And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, and who has also put his seal on us and **given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.**” (ESV)

Ephesians 1:13–14

“**In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.**” (ESV)

Ephesians 4:30

“And do not grieve the **Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.**” (ESV)

Philippians 1:6

“And I am sure of this, that **he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.**” (ESV)

1 John 4:13

“**By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.**” (ESV)

So back to this idea we just brushed on as number fifteen, the end of history. Peter, would later use this idea as part of his sermon on Pentecost when the church was fully empowered with the Holy Spirit and He began His ministry of being upon us in power as His church.

Peter did this by referring to the book of Joel. Joel talks all about the Day of the Lord and the end of the age. Thomas Oden relates the following.

“The testimony to the resurrection cannot be discounted as unreliable history, for it is clear that witnesses to it were radically transformed by what they saw. **It requires some empathic effort for modern persons to understand what an actual resurrection would have instantly and self-evidently meant to Jesus’ contemporaries. The resurrection would have meant that the end time had begun.**”

The general resurrection event was a way of speaking about the universal awakening at the end of time of those who sleep (Dan. 12:2–3; 1 Thess. 4:13ff.; cf. Baruch 3:1; 4 Ezra). **Resurrection was the event of the consummation of history. It was God’s own doing. The end of the world would not be something human beings create or consummate, but God’s own fitting consummation of what God has created, however distorted by human willing.** (Oden 1992, 457-458)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was the beginning of the end of the age and is in fact, as the firstfruits of the yet to be completed first resurrection, signaled to the unseen realm, the time had begun. The clock was not ticking real fast then, now the hands are moving so fast you could use them as a fan to keep cool.

As part of that, **point sixteen, His resurrection signaled to the fallen ones in the unseen realm that their plans had failed, all of the former spirit level jurisdictions had been made null and void, and now reclaiming the nations for the Lord is on.** On the cross and through the resurrection, Jesus did the following for us.

Colossians 2:14–15

“He has destroyed what was against us, a certificate of indebtedness expressed in decrees opposed to us. He has taken it away by nailing it to the cross. **Disarming the rulers and authorities, he has made a public disgrace of them, triumphing over them by the cross.**” (NET 2nd ed.)



“Two climactic accomplishments are noted here by Paul. First, “the record of debt that stood against us” (Jew and gentile) was canceled or “set aside” (v. 14). Second, the “rulers and authorities” were “disarmed” and “put ... to open shame” (v. 15). The resurrection (v. 12) was the causative agent to both, for if there was no resurrection, the debt against us would still stand and we would not be “made alive together with him. (Heiser 2020, 227-228)

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, changed not just our future and provided for us a path to be forgiven and restored to fellowship with God as redeemed born again followers of the King, but there were significant changes in the unseen realm as well.

Without going into a multi-hour study into the fall and reasons behind the ideas we see throughout the scriptures regarding the Divine Council as well as the Unseen Realm, there is a real need to replace the members of that council with the church, seen fulfilled in Revelation 4. The now fallen members of that council thought they had a corner on the spiritual side of things and thought that by aligning with Satan, they had made a place for themselves and a future where they would be worshipped or at least treated with some gratitude by those they were overseeing in the mortal world. There is indeed a reason why, with the resurrection, many of the gods fell out of favor historically.

The jurisdictional authority of these sons of God (fallen angels) has been nullified by the resurrection and ascension of Christ. That reality is what frames the Great Commission—the call to reclaim the nations (“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,” Matt 28:19). The kingdom of darkness will lose what is essentially a spiritual war of attrition, for the gates of hell will not be able to withstand the church. This is why believers are never commanded to rebuke spirits and demand their flight in the name of Jesus. It is unnecessary. Their authority has been withdrawn by the Most High. Believers in turn are commanded to reclaim their territory by recruiting the citizens in those territories for the kingdom of God. (Heiser 2020, 258-259)

Yes, making disciples has a multidimensional impact that we are only see at the surface level. Thus, the command of Jesus, post resurrection.

Matthew 28:18–20

“Then Jesus came up and said to them, **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”**” (NET 2nd ed.)

Commission? Back to point fourteen, now we see the rest of the instruction here from Jesus. Because He has achieved redemption on the cross, He now has all authority in heaven and on earth and notice what the almighty God of the universe tells us to do, make disciples.

There are a lot of different ways to do that but at the end of the day, it is still taking someone who does not know Jesus, allowing them to have the opportunity for the Holy Spirit to introduce them through what we are led to say and then growing them to be more like Jesus. Then repeat. There are those who want to make it more glamorous, or more “customer friendly” or more in alignment with the culture. But Jesus said go and make. Pretty simple.

The work of Christ was not about power encounters with demons. It was much more comprehensive and enduring than that. The goal was to bring Eden full circle—fulfilling God’s desire to have a human family with him forever. Punishing fallen spirits does not accomplish God’s original Edenic goal. Only the Great Commission accomplishes the ends to which God has been working as well as the defeat and



punishment of rebellious evil spirits. The Great Commission is thus a comprehensive plan for spiritual warfare. (Heiser 2020, 259)

For the faithful follower of Jesus Christ, here is what Spiritual Warfare looks like. It is a life of obedience to Jesus Christ following His example of how to live and making disciples. That's it. Being obedient followers of Jesus Christ, allowing His resurrection power to flow through us in the person of the Holy Spirit, makes us fit and ready to armor up each and every day as we go forth on His behalf and make disciples. The Great Commission, that is it in a nutshell.

Jesus provided us an example of "how to" late in on Sunday afternoon, post-resurrection, on the road to Emmaus.

Luke 24:13–27

"That very day two of them were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. **And he said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see." And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself." (ESV)**

This was nothing more than Jesus, walking with two men, who actually did know Him by the way, but for some reason did not recognize Him.

He doesn't zap them, He doesn't get up on a rock and "slay them in the Spirit," He just talks and has a conversation. This is where most discipleship takes place, in conversations while doing life. Here the conversation is taking place while walking from one place to another.

But Jesus is God Ken, He knows what He needs to say. True, He is God, but He is just having a conversation with two men about the Bible and how it pertains to Him. First of all, Jesus was available, secondly, he initiated the conversation based on what the two men were talking about. In other words, He did not interrupt them and ask them if they knew about the four spiritual laws.

I was actually taught how to do that in an evangelism class, and it is nice to have a memorized elevator speech to use, but I have learned over the years that what is more effective is to just tell you story as the Holy Spirit leads at the moment you are engaged in the conversation. It will be the same yet different each and every time.

As you talk, then you can begin to steer the conversation towards what you want to discuss and yes Satan will indeed try and stop it. Let the Holy Spirit guide you and trust Him to do His ministry here. But what Jesus shows us here is that post resurrection, He is still the same person He was pre-resurrection.



When you and I come to Christ, yes, He does indeed change us. The Holy Spirit enters us, and we do indeed experience His resurrection power as He makes us new. But and please understand what I am trying to say here, we are not given an entirely new personality. You are still you, just now in Christ, and I am still me. You do not suddenly develop holier than thou vocabulary, and you sure don't start speaking in King James English. I actually thought that would happen to me if I became a believer. I really did think I would begin to speak weird and use older words and become a serious square. Nope, nothing like that happened at all when I came to Christ.

I do want to cover one more thing the resurrected Christ does for us as part of His current ministry. And there is no way I have hit everything, when you stop and consider just this one thing and yes, this is seventeen.

Hebrews 7:24–25

“but he holds his priesthood permanently since he lives forever. So he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because **he always lives to intercede for them.**” (NET 2nd ed.)

Yeah, I would be here a while to understand this more.

But there is something that Jesus did after the resurrection which tells us how He deals with us today. It is about that trip to Galilee and Peter.

John 21:1–3

“After these things Jesus revealed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and He revealed Himself in this way: Simon Peter, Thomas who was called Didymus, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We are also coming with you.” They went out and got into the boat; and that night they caught nothing.” (NASB 2020)

We do not know if all the disciples made the trip north, I assume they did. But it does appear that Peter needed something to do. An obvious Type A personality, he must be busy doing something. So this close to the lake, and after waiting for Jesus and being bored doing so, he announces, “I am going fishing.”

John 21:4–6

“But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. So Jesus said to them, “Children, you do not have any fish to eat, do you?” They answered Him, “No.” And He said to them, “Cast the net on the right-hand side of the boat, and you will find the fish.” So they cast it, and then they were not able to haul it in because of the great quantity of fish.” (NASB 2020)

When you have been fishing, all day, all night, it doesn't matter, and you have caught nothing, the first thing you do not want to hear are comments about that. The disciples see someone standing on the beach as the sun is rising, and they have no idea who it is. And He calls them Παιδιά (paidia). Jesus still has His sense of humor.

This word Jesus uses means “a child, normally below the age of puberty, child, very young child...one who is open to instruction, child... one who is treasured in the way a parent treasures a child...of the children of God...as a form of familiar address on the part of a respected person, who feels himself on terms of fatherly intimacy with those whom he addresses. (Arndt, et al. 2000, 749)

In other words, they should know, just based on this word, who it is. But they have been up all night.



This guy on the beach has yelled at us, “hey little boys, catch anything to eat?” Jesus really does have a great sense of humor. Note the one-word terse answer – No. A bit frosty this morning aren’t we. They failed, end of story, nothing to see here or talk about.

As followers of Jesus, sometimes we simply get busy. Ministry is hard work, and, over time, it becomes a job. Just like fishing was a job. No one prayed before they went fishing. By the way, as we are busy serving the Lord, doing exactly what we thought He called us to do and exactly where we are supposed to be, just like the disciples, we might see the same result.

Am I fishing in His power, or mine. Ken, did you catch anything today? I’m out here working for you Lord. I’m where you want me to be, and no, I haven’t caught a thing. Why is that? Maybe I’m fishing my way and not His. But here He is, point six loving encouragement.

We are seeing Jesus repeat what He has already revealed as part of His ministry to us is, because of the resurrection. “The whole thought here is that He directs the lives of His own. He gives the instructions, and they are to be obeyed. When they fish according to His instruction, the net fills. Notice the net does not break even though it is full. The net is strong—as strong as the gospel of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, of which they are witnesses.” (McGee 1997, 501)

John 21:7-8

“Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” So when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he was stripped for work), and threw himself into the sea. But the other disciples came in the little boat, for they were not far from the land, but about two hundred cubits away, dragging the net full of fish.” (NASB 2020)

Peter wastes no time; he wants to be with the Lord and as quickly as possible. So, he pulls on his coveralls and then swims to shore.

As lost as he feels, he knows there is only one person who can help him in the despair and lostness of his failure. He needs grace. He needs restoration.

I really believe we all need to know this and be reminded of this ministry of the resurrected Savior; **He restores us**. Peter blew it bad, but Jesus came and restored him. The problem with legalism is we forget the grace of God, and the grace of God has the resurrected Jesus personally, restoring Peter.

After they did it the Lord’s way, they caught fish, lots of fish. Did you notice this, the net didn’t break. We need to remember that. We we are serving the Lord and seeing Him use us and bring in a harvest, the net does not break. Those who are truly belonging to the Lord will never be lost, they are held securely and are the property, just as we are, of Jesus and He will not lose a single one.

John 21:9-11

“So when they got out on the land, they saw a charcoal fire already made and fish placed on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish which you have now caught.” So Simon Peter went up and hauled the net to land, full of large fish, 153; and although there were so many, the net was not torn.” (NASB 2020)

In my minds eye, I see Jesus, standing there, grinning, welcoming them to join Him for breakfast. He knows they need to eat, and more than that, He wants to eat with them and enjoy some time of fellowship with them. Jesus meets their needs. Physical, spiritual and emotional.



This is the resurrection of Jesus on full display. He invites us as well to come and eat with Him. We do that when we celebrate communion. Jesus wants to fellowship with us, and He is the one who is initiating this. He has prepared everything ahead of time, all we need to do is sit down and be with Him.

John 21:12–14

“Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples ventured to inquire of Him, “Who are You?” knowing that it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and the fish likewise. This was now the third time that Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples, after He was raised from the dead.” (NASB 2020)

This is cool. My favorite meal of the day has always been breakfast. Jesus is into that, and He is the one serving and joining in. **Note: we get to eat in our resurrected bodies.** John tells us this is the third time Jesus has appeared to His disciples.

We have no idea what the discussion was around breakfast that morning. John does not give us the details of the time together as they fellowshiped and ate with the Lord. It was time just between them and the Lord, like our time is as well. You see, Jesus just wants to spend time with each of us, every day.

Jesus did indeed want to fellowship with all of them. But His purpose becomes clear. Peter still is grieving over what happened when he denied the Lord. He is included, but he feels a million miles away.

This is no different than you or I blowing it and then still showing up at church. Yeah, we are physically there, but in our mind, we are wondering if it can ever be the same again.

John 21:15–19

“Now when they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me more than these?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Tend My lambs.” He said to him again, a second time, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me?” He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.” He said to him, “Shepherd My sheep.” He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love Me?” Peter was hurt because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?” And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.” Jesus said to him, “Tend My sheep. Truly, truly I tell you, when you were younger, you used to put on your belt and walk wherever you wanted; but when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and someone else will put your belt on you, and bring you where you do not want to go.” Now He said this, indicating by what kind of death he would glorify God. And when He had said this, He said to him, “Follow Me!”” (NASB 2020)

We, as well as the six disciples there, are allowed to listen into a private conversation between Jesus and Peter. This is important, they need to understand, as we do, what grace truly is and as we see Jesus give grace, we see Jesus give restoration, and we learn how we are to do the same. This is, I think, **point eighteen, we receive God’s grace because of the death and resurrection of Jesus.**

In the English translation, we lose some of the impact. In the Greek, we get it. Jesus will, three times, commission Peter back to service. Why three times, possibly because he denied Jesus three times.

Jesus restores us by causing us to face squarely our point of failure, then challenging us to set our eyes on the work ahead. Jesus doesn’t ask “are you sorry?” nor “will you promise never to do that again?”

“Jesus Christ asks each one of us, not for obedience primarily, not for repentance, not for vows, not for conduct, but for a heart; and that being given, all the rest will follow.” (Guzik 2013, Jn 21:17)



In His grace, Jesus does not ask us if we are sure we will never blow it again. He knows that some of us will. Peter did. He later got caught up in legalism and had to be called on it by Paul. In His grace, Jesus will remind us of our mission, and yes, it may have changed due to sin, but He is not done with us yet.

Are we committed to following Him?

Restoration is provided for us in 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (ESV)

But making it possible for us to be saved, again, point one, this is why the crucifixion and the resurrection.

Romans 3:21–24

"But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins." (NLT)

Romans 10:9–13

"If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced." Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For "Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved."" (NLT)

ABC's of Salvation

- A. Acknowledge that you are a sinner, tell Him that.
- B. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for our sin and that He rose from the dead.
- C. Confess that Jesus is Lord. Tell someone about what you have done.

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