

## The Importance of Resurrection

Please Stand and Open Your Bibles to Luke 24:1-12

Why is the resurrection of Jesus so important? Why is resurrection of the dead so important? Once a year we take the time to remember that the tomb is empty, and we serve a risen Savior. Just as we remember the death of Christ with Communion, we recognize His life on Easter Sunday.

Before we can understand the importance of this, we must discover the “why”. That comes with an understanding of death. If we do not have a proper understanding of death, we will never understand the importance of Resurrection. One of the most important verses to proclaim this is...

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—

Why is it that we live in a time that no matter how much you can convince someone they are a sinner that they still don't see a need for a Savior? How is it the Gospel has seemed to have lost its power? May I say it has to do with this verse. Satan has done a very good job in convincing them that it is not true. Let's go back to the beginning and show you that it is through his craftiness that he has been able to take the wind out of the gospel.

The first thing we need to make clear is that God did not originally create life that included death. We read...

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was **very good**. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

It wasn't until God made man that the idea of death came into the picture...

Genesis 2:16-17

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

What it literally says is the day that that you eat of it "Dying you shall surely die". The consequence was two-fold, immediate spiritual death and separation from God and gradual physical death. What was it that happened that brought that into the world?

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

His trick was to get them to question God's word and once he has done that, he gets you to believe the lie...

Genesis 3:4

Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die..."

Satan has taken this to a level that many in the church has never bothered to consider.

In the last 150-200 years there has been a successful campaign by Satan to convince the world that God's word is not true. It has been so successful that the church has gone along with it and in the process has destroyed the gospel message. This is one of the reasons they had to adopt seeker friendly practices because the power and attraction of the gospel message has been extinguished. Replaced by humanism and lies that has most of the church teaching and preaching a false gospel and a false Jesus. This lie from Satan is the supposed "Theory" of Evolution. Here are some pictures \*\* you might remember growing up and one that has a little truth to it. \*

<https://humanorigins.si.edu/education/introduction-human-evolution>

Human evolution is **the lengthy process of change** by which people originated from apelike ancestors. **Scientific evidence** shows that the physical and behavioral traits shared by all

people originated from apelike ancestors and evolved over a period of approximately six million years.

That, my friends is a lie. If it is a lie, where does it come from?

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

Oh, come on Pastor, are you really telling me that what they are teaching is a lie from the Devil! Yes. And we were told it was coming...

1 Timothy 4:1-2

Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron...

These people are not people that were saved but those that lost their faith in what God has said. They have departed from the faith in the true God and the true gospel and gone after the humanistic lie of evolution and death before sin.

See, if death is millions of years of death happening to bring about the first man, then death is not a product of sin. Death

becomes a means of life instead of the judgment deserved for sin. Paul warned that those that will believe the lie of the coming Antichrist will fall for it because they reject the truth!

2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Now getting back to our opening verse...

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—

It is Adam's sin that brought death in the world. God did not create death; we are the ones that did. It is our fault. When we realize that it changes everything. We look around the world and all the death, disease, war, violence, and hatred became our fault, our responsibility. The sentence of death seems fair, God's wrath deserved. That is why the Gospel truth becomes so amazing!

Romans 5:8-9

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then,

having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

So, why the future resurrection? That's why you brought us here, right?

What did man lose in the Garden? That's right, life. We regained spiritual life the moment we put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, but what about the physical life that was taken by the curse.

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity  
Between you and the woman,  
And between your seed and her Seed;  
He shall bruise your head,  
And you shall bruise His heel.

When Jesus came triumphant out of the grave, He smashed the curse of Satan and reclaimed what was taken from us. This includes both aspects of death.

Hebrews 2:14-15

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Right now, Satan is acting on usurped authority. Not only did we die by our sin, but we caused all of creation to die too. They, like us are waiting for our physical redemption.

Romans 8:22-24

For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?

So, now let's turn our attention to Paul's teaching on this for the rest of this afternoon.

Our Hope in Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:12-28

1 Corinthians 15:12

Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

2 Timothy 2:17-18

And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!

1 Thessalonians 4:13

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

As we have seen that is our hope and it is part of our salvation. Death is a product of the curse and life is a product of God.

John 5:24-25

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. (Explain)

This is what they believed early on and when Jesus was about to do the miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead this what he said then and still say's today...



John 11:23-26

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

This is the question that is being asked to everyone today. It is the key to eternal life. Spiritual birth now and a physical resurrection later. You only have to answer the same way she did...

John 11:27

She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

The way to life is through faith in Christ, put your faith in Him today!