

Fundamentals of Faith

Part 6: The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Text: Matthew 28

I. The Resurrection Is the Cornerstone of Christianity

The resurrection is the **central truth of the Christian faith**.

1 Corinthians 15:13

If Christ is not risen:

- Our **faith is vain**
- Our **preaching is empty**
- The **atonement is incomplete**
- There is **no good news**

Matthew 28 records the **climax of the Gospel of Matthew** and the **climax of Christ's earthly ministry**.

Jesus foretold His resurrection multiple times.

Notes

II. Reactions to the Resurrection

1. Rationalism

Attempts to explain away the resurrection through human reasoning.

2. Refusal

Rejects the truth despite evidence.

3. Doubt

Questions the resurrection.

4. Indifference

Acknowledges the possibility but shows no interest.

5. Hostility

Open opposition and efforts to discredit the resurrection.

Proper Response

Faith — belief and affirmation of the truth.

Notes

III. The Emotions at the Empty Tomb

(Matthew 28)

1. Sympathy

The women brought spices to anoint Jesus' body.

They were **not expecting a resurrection.**

2. Terror

An **earthquake occurred** when the angel appeared.

The angel rolled away the stone **not to let Jesus out, but to let others in.**

3. Joy

The women **ran to tell the disciples.**

4. Hope

They **fell at His feet and worshipped Him.**

Jesus called them **brethren**, indicating a new relationship.

Notes

IV. Evidence of the Resurrection

- **Angelic testimony**
- **Jesus' own predictions**
- **The empty tomb**
- **The grave clothes**
- **Eyewitness appearances**

Jesus appeared to:

- Mary
- Peter
- The disciples
- Thomas
- Over **500 witnesses**

Jesus remained on earth **40 days after the resurrection.**

Notes

V. The Meaning of the Resurrection

1. **God's Word is true.**
2. **Jesus is the Son of God.**
3. **Salvation is complete.**

4. **The church is established.**

(Matthew 16:18)

5. **Heaven is secured for believers.**

(John 14)

6. **Judgment is coming.**

Notes

Conclusion

Christianity does not rest on a philosophy or system.

It rests on a **historical event**.

Jesus Christ is risen.

We do not serve a dead prophet or powerless idol.

We serve a risen Savior.