

The Power of Jesus' Resurrection

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 28:5-10

INTRODUCTION.

- A. The apostles preached the resurrection of Jesus the Christ.
 - 1. Peter showed how David prophesied the resurrection of the Christ. (Acts 2:30-33)
 - a. *“Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”* (Acts 2:30-33)
 - 2. The apostles were witnesses to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. (Acts 4:33)
 - a. *“And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.”* (Acts 4:33)
- B. There is great power in the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. As the apostle Paul wrote, *“...that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”* (Philippians 3:10).
- C. In this lesson, we will consider four things accomplished by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST . . .

- A. Declares Jesus to be the Son of God.
 - 1. Before His death, Jesus referred to Himself as the Son of the heavenly Father. (John 5:17-23)
 - 2. Jesus' resurrection declared (designated, proved) to the world that He was the

Son of God. (Romans 1:1-4; cf. Acts 13:33-37)

- a. "...which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the **resurrection** of the dead." (Romans 1:1-4)
 - b. "God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: '**You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.**' **And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption,** He has spoken thus: 'I will give you the sure mercies of David.' Therefore He also says in another Psalm: '**You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.**' For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; but **He whom God raised up saw no corruption.**" (Acts 13:33-37)
- B. Makes possible our resurrection to eternal life in heaven.
1. Just as Jesus was raised from the dead, so too will we be raised in the likeness of His resurrection. (Romans 6:4-5)
 - a. *"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His **resurrection.**"* (Romans 6:4-5)
 2. We believe God will also raise us up. (1 Corinthians 15:20-24; 2 Corinthians 4:13-14)
 - a. *"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has **become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.** 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.** But each one in his own order: Christ the first*

fruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming." (1 Corinthians 15:20-24)

- b. *"And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, 'I believed and therefore I spoke,' we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus **will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you.**"* (2 Corinthians 4:13-14)

C. Gives us hope for eternal salvation.

- 1. Peter tells us that God *"has begotten us again to a living hope."* (1 Peter 1:3-5)
 - a. *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefined and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."* (1 Peter 1:3-5)
- 2. This hope is made possible by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:21)
 - a. *"There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ."* (1 Peter 3:21)

D. Makes our serving the Lord not in vain.

- 1. Toward the end of 1 Corinthians, chapter 15, the apostle Paul, building upon the teaching of Jesus' resurrection and the resurrection of the faith, reminds the brethren that their labor, their *"work of the Lord,"* is not in vain. (1 Corinthians 15:14-20, 58)
 - a. *"And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up— if in fact the dead do not rise...But now Christ is **risen** from the dead, and has **become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep...** (58) Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always*

abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” (1 Corinthians 15:14-20, 58)

2. There is a “*crown of righteousness*” awaiting the faithful. (2 Timothy 4:6-8)
 - a. *“For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.” (2 Timothy 4:6-8)*

CONCLUSION.

- A. Jesus’ resurrection...
 1. Declares Jesus to be the son of God.
 2. Makes possible our resurrection to eternal life in heaven.
 3. Gives us hope for eternal salvation.
 4. Makes our serving the Lord not in vain.