

The Resurrection of Jesus

❖ Introduction

➤ Last week (Crucifixion)

- Looked in at the torture and death of Jesus
- How He was... whipped with a leather whip consisting of bones, glass and metal
- Hit over the head with a reed, spit upon, beard plucked out, mocked and nailed to a cross
- Where he hung for hours until He died...
- And then had a spear run through his side and up into his heart
- **His torture and death were done;**
 - Because of man's sin.
 - Because of our Lying, stealing, hatred, sexual lusts, (which is equal to adultery), pride, gossip, slander, blasphemy of God's name, and our utter disobedience to God
 - ◆ Jesus Christ Died.
- **Universal Law of God**
 - Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins
 - Jesus Torture and Death is God's means to cover and forgive your sins.
- **In the Death of Jesus Christ**
 - God appeases His own wrath
 - Jesus satisfies the Holy Nature of God by taking on the punishment for sin

➤ So Here we are able stand:

- As a prideful liar, thief, adulterer, blasphemer, and having been completely disobedient to God....
- But we can stand today with our sins covered over by the blood that was shed that day by the God-Man Jesus...

➤ Jesus Sacrifice:

- Ransomed our soul from wrath
- Gained for us entrance into heaven....

➤ Jesus Death Does Not Cover Every Man...

- It could, it is sufficient for that task...
- But it only covers those who have had it applied to their Life

➤ Forgiveness is granted and the blood applied to those:

- Repented of their Sins
- Placed their total Faith in Jesus
 - Believing Him to be both Lord and Savior
 - Believing Him to be your Entrance into Heaven

❖ Today:

➤ We are looking at the resurrection of Jesus....

- What is Resurrection: It is after someone is dead, physically dead, with no chance at resuscitation, that this person returns back to life.

➤ I want us to Celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus today....

- But I also want to persuade those who may not have a relationship with Jesus, that it is true
- **I Can Not Overstate the Importance, the Severity and the Need to Have Understanding of this Event**
 - If true.... The Resurrection of Jesus
 - Is the Single Most Amazing Event in all of history
 - An Event that gives Hope beyond Hope to all mankind
 - An Event You cannot be wrong about
- **There are things you can be wrong about here on earth, and still be ok....**
 - But if you are wrong about the Resurrection
 - And wrong in your response to the Resurrection...
 - It will cost you your very Soul for eternity.....

❖ **The Death of Jesus (We pick up the story here)**

- **John 19:33-34** ³³ But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced his side with a spear, and at once there came out blood and water.
- **So Jesus is Dead....**
 - He has just been crucified
 - He had been captured beaten and hung on a cross....
 - Legally it was because He claimed to be God
 - He claimed to be able to forgive sins
 - He claimed to be God...

❖ **The Burial Of Jesus...**

- At the end of last weeks sermon we see Nicodemus and Joseph of Armithea taking Jesus to be buried
- Let look at Matthew and see how the tomb was watched over...
 - These verses are so important...
- **Matt 27:57-66** ⁶² The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate ⁶³ and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' ⁶⁴ Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." ⁶⁵ Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." ⁶⁶ So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

❖ **The Burial and Guarding of the Body of Jesus**

- Leaders came Asking Pilate to Secure the Tomb...
- Leaders are given a guard of Soldiers
- Go Make it as Secure as you can
- A Great Stone Rolled Over the Entrance of the Tomb
 - And A guard is set

❖ **Before We look at the Resurrection...**

- Lets remember what John gave as His reasoning for telling the story of the torture and death of Jesus...
 - Remember... It was the main point of the chapter...
 - You needed to see the whole chapter through that verse... because of the intention of the writer
 - **John 19:35** ³⁵ He who saw it has borne witness—his testimony is true, and he knows that he is telling the truth—that you also may believe.

- And He says something very similar on this chapter 20...
 - And it is so important because He says... this is why I wrote this whole book...
 - John 20:30-31 ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

❖ The Resurrection of Jesus

➤ These are Exciting verses...

- Especially if you have never heard them before...
 - Maybe you have heard about Jesus rising from the dead...
 - But to hear some of the details surrounding those who saw it...
 - Is amazing...

➤ Peter and John see the empty tomb

- John 20:1-31 ¹ Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” ³ So Peter went out with the other disciple, and they were going toward the tomb. ⁴ Both of them were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ And stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, ⁷ and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to their homes.

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➤ Mary Sees Jesus

- ¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹² And she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet. ¹³ 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.” ¹⁴ Having said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ 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.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned and said to him in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ 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.’ ” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord” — and that he had said these things to her.

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➤ Jesus Appears to the Disciples

- 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, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with

you.”²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.”²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

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➤ **The Doubt of Thomas and Jesus Grace Toward Him**

- ²⁴ Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.” ²⁶ Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

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➤ **The Purpose of John’s Writing**

- ³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

❖ **Why the Resurrection is so Great for Us**

➤ **Words cannot describe how fantastic this is...**

- Inexpressible.... Almost seems too good to be true... Even hard to believe at times.

➤ **1) It Means that Sinful People (like us) Get to Be with God**

- Our Sins Can Be Forgiven
- And the result of our sin (our death) can be reversed
- No matter what I have done, or said, or thought... it can be taken away

➤ **2) This life is not all there is**

- There is so much more waiting for us...
 - **1 Corinthians 2:9** ⁹ But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”
- This life is filled with sorrow, and need, and wanting...
- God has a Rest for us
 - **Matthew 11:28** ²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

➤ **3) We can live in hope of being reunited with each other**

- When our loved ones die...
- It is not the end
- We will see them once again
- The Relationships we have made, will continue on for Eternity...
- God has ordained we have strong friendships and family bonds...

- This will not end

➤ **4) Our Broken Down Bodies are made New, and Better**

- Our frail bodies will be changed...
- **When we die now....**
 - Our bodies go into the earth and it turns to dirt...
 - Our Spirit goes to be with Christ
 - ♦ 2 Corinthians 5:6-8 ⁶ Therefore *we are* always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: ⁷ (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) ⁸ We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
 - **On the Day of Resurrection we are given a new body Like Jesus'**
 - ♦ In the same way Jesus died, was buried, and then His body was made new... it will happen to us
 - ♦ 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-49 ³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.....⁴² So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

❖ **Biblically Logical Proofs of the Truthfulness of the Resurrection (Did this Really Happen?)**

- Josh McDowell says that after over 700 hours of research on the resurrection of Jesus Christ, "It is one of the most wicked, vicious, heartless, hoaxes ever foisted upon the minds of men, OR it is the most fantastic fact in history."
 - There are so many historical proofs as to its truthfulness, we will not get through all of them
 - Many of you, in our study on Doctrine have been able to examine many of these.
- **1) Jesus Resurrection was prophesied in Advance**
 - 750 years earlier, the prophet Isaiah Spoke of it (Isaiah 53. 8-12)
 - Jesus spoke of being resurrected at least 5 times recorded in Scripture
- **2) Jesus Died on the Cross, Was Buried in an easy to find Tomb, And Was then seen Alive**
 - **He Really died.... If the beating and blood loss didn't get him**
 - The spear through the side and into the heart surely would.
 - The guy responsible for crucifying Him Was really good at what He did...
 - **He is wrapped in Burial clothes**
 - Some claim they weighed over 100 lbs.

- And that they would suffocate anyone wrapped in them
- **Given no medical Attention during these days in the tomb**
- **The Tomb is being guarded by probably as many as 4 soldiers...**
 - It has been made as secure as is possible... (remember our verse from Matt)
 - These soldiers are very good at what they do...
 - And a couple fishermen were not going to subdue them
 - Or sneak past them...
 - And they sure were not going to fall asleep as the Pharisees tried to spread a lie
- **Then 100's of people see Him**
 - The women followers first
 - All of his disciples
 - 500 people at one time saw Jesus after His death
- **This man who just went through the most barbaric Torture is up walking around**
 - He is never described as a man in bad physical shape.
 - He appears to them, and cooks for them
 - Walks with them.
 - Looks normal...
 - His followers even mistook Him for a Gardener
- **3) One of His biggest Enemies, Paul, later Confirms it after seeing Jesus**
 - Paul was persecuting the Church, and killing Christians...
 - Jesus appears to him and He is changed
- **4) The Transformation of the Disciples**
 - They scattered when Jesus was arrested
 - They hid in secret rooms
 - Only John went to the cross
 - Most of them did not believe He had risen when the women told them....
 - Then One Day you see them out preaching in public
 - Getting Arrested and beaten...
 - And then rejoicing that they get to go through this...
 - All of them Died for the Belief in Jesus as God, and in His Resurrection from the dead
- **5) Their character makes it hard to believe they fabricated the story**
 - The greatest writings on how to live are in the Bible...
 - The new Testament is filled with instructions on how to live
 - Their only trouble with the law was based on their telling others about Jesus...
 - That is it...
- **6) The Resurrection on Sunday changed their day of Worship**
 - Hundreds of very loyal Jewish people changed their day of worship to Sunday
 - The Sabbath was on Saturday
 - And as a good Jewish person, you would respect that
 - But they changed their day of worship to another day
 - Something dramatic must have happened
- **7) The Early Church's growth was predicated on the Fact of the Resurrection**

- The thousands of people that joined the church in a matter of days and weeks
- Did so believing Jesus had risen from the dead
- **8) The tomb was not enshrined**
 - Most religious leaders have a tomb enshrined, and their followers come to it
 - And Jesus' followers were zealous for Him
 - But they did not set up a memorial for Him
 - Why? He was not in the tomb
- **Thomas Arnold (professor of Modern History at Oxford): "No one fact in the history of mankind . . . is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort" than the fact that "Christ died and rose from the dead."**

❖ **What if there is No Resurrection?**

- **1 Corinthians 15:17-19 ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.**
- 1) We are still in our sins
- 2) We Christians made a lot about nothing and should be pitied
- 3) This is it... Nothing to look forward to...
- 4) There is no hope we see each other again

❖ **Jesus is the Only Hope of Resurrection**

- **All major religions are based on philosophies**
 - Except 4 that are based on personalities.
- **Of those 4 only one claims to have risen from the dead.**
 - Abraham, father of Judaism dies around 1900 bc
 - Jesus said before Abraham was, I AM
 - Buddha died
 - Mohammed died June 8th 632 AD, and his tomb is visited annually by his followers.
- **Only Jesus Was Resurrected**
 - Only Jesus has power over death
 - Only Jesus has the authority to give Eternal Life

❖ **How Should the Resurrection Affect the Individual?**

- **1) A Holy Fear Should Grip You**
 - **Mark 16.8 "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."**
 - Their response to the resurrection was fear and trembling, astonishment.
 - They are dealing with God.
- **2) We should give up our lives for Christ**
 - Nothing Else matters
 - **This was the Response of the Disciples**
 - They all died for Jesus...
 - Paul's Response was to go through suffering....
 - **Most of us will never face physical death for believing the Resurrection...**

- But we are called to die daily....
- Called to die to our own desires...
- And follow the desire of God first....
- **Sadly.... This is where most people Stop... they give up when they hear this...**
 - The Rich Young Ruler came to Jesus wanting Eternal Life.
 - Jesus told him He had to sell all He had, then come follow Jesus...
 - He went away sad...

➤ **3) Our Lives Should be Shaped by the Hope of the Resurrection**

- In All of our choices
- In our outlook on life...
- We make decisions knowing we will be rewarded by how we lived our life
- Or have no rewards for living unfaithfully

➤ **4) It Should Free us From Materialism**

- Wanting to get and get and get... more and more stuff
- This World Holds nothing of value for us....Our Treasure is somewhere else...

❖ **I know this Sounds Odd to some**

➤ **But Jesus and the hope of Resurrection is the Reason people**

- Choose Obedience over Money
- Choose Jesus over the pleasure of sexual immorality
 - Being with someone other than your spouse
 - Or having sex before being married
 - Or looking at sexual images that cause lust
- Choose Jesus over Fame
- Choose Obedience to Christ over fear of man...
 - What will they think if I talk to them about Jesus...

➤ **Most of you are so used to making decisions based on what you think is best for you**

- Safest Place to live
- Job that makes the most money
- Friends that make me look better
- Car or Home that looks better

➤ So Self Gratifying

❖ **The 2 Resurrections**

➤ There is the Resurrection of all Believers unto Eternal Life

- Where there will be no more pain, or sorrow, or tears
- **Rev.20.6 Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power,**

➤ There is the Resurrection unto death for all those who have rejected Jesus

- Who have rejected His offer of free grace
- Of free eternal life

➤ The Only Cost is that you give God your life....