

## “Jesus Demonstrates Resurrection Life”

The resurrection of Jesus Christ sovereignly demonstrates and declares that Jesus, through His own shed blood on the cross, did in fact take our punishment for sin upon Himself, and therefore, we have been granted forgiveness for our sins and eternal life!

**Hebrews 9:26-28**, “He [Christ] has been manifested [clearly revealed] to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment, so Christ also, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time for salvation without *reference to sin*, to those who eagerly await Him.”

**Hebrews 10:1**, “For the Law... can never, by the same sacrifices which they offer continually year by year, make perfect those who draw near.” **4-7**, “For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. Therefore, when He [Messiah, Christ] comes into the world, He says, ‘Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but a body You have prepared for Me; in whole burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin You have taken no pleasure.’ Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come... To do Your will, O God.’” **10**, “By this will we have been sanctified [made holy] through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. **14-18**, “For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying, ‘This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days,’ says the Lord: ‘I will put My laws upon their heart, and on their mind I will write them,’ then He then says, ‘And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.’

“Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin.”

The Apostle Peter simplifies the problem of our sinfulness, and the need for a Holy God to punish sin (**1Peter 3:18**), “Christ died for sins once for all, *the* just for *the* unjust, so that He might bring us to God,” Jesus said (**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 dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also.” **6**, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

Paul writes most comprehensively concerning our sinfulness, God’s righteous judgement upon sin, and our inability (as humans) to do anything (of our own merit) to remedy sin’s curse and avoid the eternal condemnation it brings (See **Romans 3:10-12, 23-25, 5:8; 6:23**).

Jesus said He died for our sins; but it is imperative that He rise from the dead in order to prove He had sovereign authority over sin, death and judgement. If Jesus didn’t rise from the dead, we have no hope of eternal life with God.

The biblical and historical records concur, that Jesus of Nazareth died on a Friday afternoon and was placed in a tomb, but Sunday morning His body was missing!

**Read Matthew 28:1-15...** If Jesus’ body was missing, either He rose from the dead, as He repeatedly said He would, or He remained dead, and either someone, or someones, removed His body and took it away to an unknown location, but who?

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1. The **Jewish Leaders** wanted Christ's body to remain in the tomb; for if the body was missing and the tomb was empty, it could be said that He had risen from the dead; and for this reason (cf. **Matthew 27:62-65**), they urged Pilate to put a Roman guard unit at the tomb, to ensure that the body would remain there, for Jesus had said (**v. 63**), “After three days I *am to* rise again.”

2. A **Roman Guard Unit** was placed at the tomb to make sure Jesus' body stayed put; allowing the body to be moved or taken was punishable by death; therefore, the soldiers would make sure Christ's body remained in the tomb; but then, they had never faced one of God's mighty angels.

**Matthew 28:3-4** tells us, when the soldiers saw the angel, they became like dead men (fainted); after they woke up (**Matthew 28:12-15**) they reported to the Chief Priests who “gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, and said, You are to say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole Him away while we were asleep. ‘And if this should come to the governor's ears, we will win him over and keep you out of trouble.’ And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews, *and is to this day.*”

3. Jesus' **Disciples** wouldn't dare move His body and falsify His resurrection; for if they knew Jesus did not rise from the grave, they had no hope of eternal life, and it would have been better for them to quickly and quietly get out of town, change their names, and deny any prior relationship with Jesus of Nazareth.

Why would the Disciples continue to proclaim the risen Lord, as they did, if it were not true?

Why would the Jewish authorities bribe the Roman soldiers to spread the “stolen body” story if it indeed was true?

Jesus told His disciples He would be arrested, put to death, and on the third day He would rise from the grave.

**Matthew 17:22-23...** “And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, ‘The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day.’ And they were deeply grieved.”

**Mark 8:31...** “He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.”

**Luke 9:44-46,** “‘Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of Man is going to be [betrayed] into the hands of men.’ But they did not understand this statement, and it was concealed from them so that they would not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this statement.”

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After His resurrection (**Luke 24:44-48**), “Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and He said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.’ You are witnesses of these things.”

Look, when you repent of your sins and trust in Jesus Christ's death on the cross to provide full payment for your sins, you are granted eternal life with God.

Christ's resurrection demonstrates God's sovereign power and authority over sin, death, and judgment. The only reasonable explanation for the empty tomb is that Jesus rose from the grave, just like He said He would.

**John 11:25-26**, “Jesus said to [Martha], ‘I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?’” **39-44**, “Going to the place where Lazarus was buried, Jesus said,” ‘Remove the stone.’ Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, ‘Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been dead four days.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?’ So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, ‘Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me.’ When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, ‘Lazarus, come forth.’ The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, ‘Unbind him, and let him go.’”

Jesus freed Lazarus from death, demonstrating what He had just said, “he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,” Lazarus believed in and belongs to the Lord.

**Hebrews 9:27**, “it is appointed for men to die once, after this *comes* judgment.”

**Romans 8:1-2**, “There is now no condemnation [judgement] for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.”

**Romans 8:38-39**, “For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

**2Corinthians 5:17**, “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Your only hope of eternal life is through Jesus Christ the Lord. Jesus Christ is “the resurrection and the life”; He died on the Cross for your sins, He was raised from the dead on the third day, and He is alive forever (**Revelation 1:8**), “‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.’” (**17-18**), “I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore” Don't you see?

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**1John 5:11-13**, “And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.”

Do you believe in and confess Jesus Christ as Lord?

Do you have the assurance that you belong to the Savior and that you will live with Him in heaven, even though you die here on earth?

If you know that you have eternal life, praise God!! But if you are unsure that you have forgiveness for your sins and eternal life, settle that issue right now, right here. Don't leave this Easter Service with any doubts about Christ's resurrection!

Take a moment right now, consider all the Scriptures declare about Jesus Christ, God's Son, Lord and Savior, Who was crucified, resurrected, and is coming again.

### **Admit**

to God that you are a sinner (we all are), repent and ask God to forgive your sins. He turns no one away (**Romans 10:13**), “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord for the forgiveness of sins will be saved.”

### **Believe**

in Jesus Christ for salvation, He died for your sins, taking your punishment, paying your penalty, setting you free from condemnation!

### **Confess**

Jesus Christ as Lord, for He rose from the grave to proclaim victory over sin, death, and judgement.

### **Demonstrate New Life in Christ:**

Pray [talk] to God as if you are talking with a loving father who wants fellowship with you, because He is and He does.

### **Read God's Word**

daily, obey what you understand.

### **Participate**

in a Bible Believing, Teaching, and Practicing Church, where God's Word is Honored and Proclaimed.

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 – (full sermon notes)

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Ultimately, love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself, for this fulfills all the commandments of God (**Matthew 22:37-40; Mark 12:30-31; Luke 10:25-28**).

Good news, good news, for you and for me: Jesus arose and He lives don't you see! Good news, good news, let's tell it to others; that they too may know of this wonderful Savior Who loves us all so.

Resurrection Sunday celebrates eternal life for everyone who (cf. **Romans 10:9-10**), “confesses with their mouth Jesus as Lord, and believes in their heart that God raised Him from the dead; for with your heart you believe, resulting in righteousness, and with your mouth you confess, resulting in salvation.”

Only then will you be able to earnestly proclaim, along with me,

**He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!**

Would you please stand, if you are able, as our Music Team returns to the platform, so that we might sing together the chorus from,

**“I Serve a Risen Savior.”**  
*He lives, He lives,  
Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me  
Along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives:  
He lives within my heart.*

### **Benediction**

Good News, Good News, for you and for me. Jesus arose and He lives, don't you see. Good News, Good News, let's tell it to others, so they too might know of this wonderful Savior who loves us all so.

**He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!**

Go from this place as witnesses that Jesus defeated and conquered sin, death and judgement, and is coming back to take all those who believe in Him, to be with Him in heaven forever.

*Pastor Mike Hale*