

Resurrection Sunday 2018

Good Friday:

- the intensity of His spiritual trial in Gethsemane
- the horror and outrage of what happened
 - in Caiaphas' house – a kangaroo court
 - in Antonio Fortress – a King's game
 - on Golgotha/Calvary – unspeakable humiliation and suffering
- the very pinnacle of injustice
- a testament to the ugliness of man
- a testament to the faithfulness and love of man's Kinsman-Redeemer
 - His betrayal by a friend
 - the denial (3x) of another friend
 - His abandonment by all of His men
 - His physical torture
 - His spiritual "catastrophe"
 - His grace: "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."
 - His last word: "It is finished" (Paid In Full our debt)
- the confusion and utter heartbreak of His followers

SonRise:

- more horror and confusion of His disciples to find
 - His tomb "tampered with"
 - His tomb empty
- the glorious revelation of
 - He is not here, He is risen
 - The Risen Lord
- both doubt and joy of His followers

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ – the pivot point of human history

Man (Adam and Eve, male and female) was created in the image of God

Man was clothed in light, had eternal life, and had pure, unrestricted fellowship/relationship with God

Then Man sinned...and death and darkness corrupted creation and separation ruled

In his corrupt and dead condition, Man needed (understatement)

- a new relationship with God
- a new future...the past being past, all sin forgiven, all things made new
- a new nature...of life vs death

Yet Man was in "no condition" to change anything – dead in his sin

Man who offended God needed the just, merciful, and gracious God to make things right

God's solution to Man's need:

- forgiveness of sin...paid for by John 1:29...life for life
- a complete transformation and regeneration of Man
- resurrection...
 - man dead to God made alive to God by Spirit of God
 - unto eternal Life and Light and pure unrestricted relationship

Resurrection

- the only sign Jesus ever gave to "sign-seekers"
- the central message of every sermon in Book of Acts
- the witness of the Church to a dead world
- the message of hope to a hopeless world
- the power of God

1 Cor 15:1-4, 20-26, 42-57

- v1-4 our message, the Gospel...the Truth
- v20 established historical fact: Jesus is risen (v5-8, Acts 1:3)
sleep: take last breath, believing the Word of God
perish: take last breath, NOT believing the Word of God
- v21 The Redeemer/Life must be of the same "kind" as the dead...Kinsman
mystery of Christ = 100% Man and 100% God...absolutely unique!
- v22 All people are "in Adam"...in his loins, descendants of
All are born spiritually dead to God, of the sin nature
All who believe in Jesus are "in Christ"...our position before God
All are born again of the Spirit of God, given God's nature
- v23-26 the King is always 1st
death is NOT just a part of life, it is Man's enemy
- v42-44 Resurrection, the power of God:
 - the corrupt is made incorruptible
 - the shameful is made glorious
 - the weak is given the power of God
 - the body of dust is transformed in an eternal body, a building of God,
eternal in the heavens
- v45 by the breath of God
- v46-49 1st Man: of the dust, made a living soul, sinned when ate fruit of a tree
2nd Man: of heaven (Word made flesh/Man), no sin yet cursed, hung on a tree

1st birth: of the earth, a body of dust made a living soul
2nd birth: of heaven, regeneration by the Spirit of God

1st likeness: sinful
2nd likeness: holy

- v50 none of the “1st”s can ever be reconciled to God,
will remain separated from God forever
A radical change must be made by an Almighty Change Agent
- v51 a mystery: eternal truth being revealed by God, Who is Truth
not all will sleep, take their last breath believing the Word
Truth: most will perish in their unbelief
But all will be changed, given a body “suitable” to their chosen destination
- Acts 24:15 resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust
Hab 2:4 just believe, unjust do not believe
just to heaven, unjust to hell
- v52-57 only for the just – Victory over our enemy!!!
Eph 2:8-9

Each of us must examine ourselves as to what the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ means

1. to the Believer, those who sleep, the just
 - a. Set free from sin, death, judgment of God
No condemnation (Rom 8:1) for those who were condemned (John 3:17-18)

Free from the bondage of sin, not given liberty/license to sin
Given the power (of God) to say “No” to sin

Gal 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the
affections and lusts.
 - b. Newness of life and a new nature

Rom 6:1-14

2 Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* a new creature: old things
are passed away; behold, all things are become new

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ
liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the
faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me

Col 3:1-4, 10, 12-17

Rom 12:1-2

Being set free and given the newness of Life in Christ, the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ means victory over

- sin that so easily besets us
- the flesh/Self
- the grave/death

Jesus Christ's encouragement to the Family:

Account the flesh nailed to the Cross of Christ

Nail the sins that so easily beset us to the Cross of Christ... "I die daily"

Live "self-crucified" and "Christ-risen"

The new birth, born again of the Spirit of God, is not the end of story

The rest of the story is living victoriously in Christ, every day

2. to the Unbeliever, those who perish, the unjust

An invitation to Life eternal, that newness of life and the new nature (of God)

John 3:16 you have a choice! Exercise your free will!

John 14:6 God's salvation, God's terms (1 Cor 2:2)

John 11:25-26 **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?**

John 5:25-29 **Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good (believe), unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil (not believe), unto the resurrection of damnation.**

1 John 5:10-13 **He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God hath made him a liar; because he believeth not the record that God gave of his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; *and* he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.**

Jesus Christ's exhortation to the estranged:

2 Cor 5:17-21

Be ye reconciled to God!

How?

Judges 10:10-16

Confession: I have sinned against You, God

Repentance: put away the false gods and serve True God

Rom 10:9-15

Family: Will you die daily that Christ will live in you?

Humble yourself before God, draw near to Him and He will draw near to you

Estranged: will you accept God's invitation, God's glorious gift?

Come see me