

HE IS RISEN

EASTER SUNDAY 2014
THE RESURRECTION OF
JESUS CHRIST

4.20.14

INTRODUCTION

- **Decades before and after Jesus**, there were multiple movements in the nation of Israel because men claimed to be the Christ... Most of these men were killed, then their followers would go home and that was that. All of their claims were rejected and all of their movements lost steam within a few years, save one! **His name is Jesus!**
- **Q. Why?** Why do we (& millions across the globe) still worship Jesus as Christ, God, Savior, and King?
- **A. Because of Jesus' Resurrection!** He died. He was buried in a tomb. Three days later He arose.

The resurrection of Jesus is *not just a piece* of the Gospel, it is the very foundation. Without it, there is no Gospel. If Jesus didn't resurrect for our salvation, there is no hope for us.

Andrew Murray: "A dead Christ I must do everything for; a living Christ does everything for me."

I WANT TO ANSWER 2 QUESTIONS IN 30 MINUTES:

- 1) Why do we believe Jesus resurrected?
- 2) What did Jesus' resurrection accomplish for us?

Turn to **John 20:1-29**

1. WHY DO WE BELIEVE JESUS RESURRECTED?

We have A LOT of evidence 1) Biblically, 2) Circumstantially, and 3) Historically

BIBLICAL EVIDENCE OF THE RESURRECTION

1. **Jesus' resurrection was prophesied 700 years in advance** (Isaiah 53:8-12)
2. **Jesus' predicted his own resurrection** (Matt. 12:38-40; Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:33-34; John 2:18-22)
3. **Jesus died** (John 19:34-35) **Whole point of crucifixion **Electric Chair
4. **Jesus was buried in a tomb that was easy to find** (Matthew 27:57-60)
5. **Jesus appeared physically (not just spiritually) alive three days after his death**
 - Matt. 28:9; John 20:17; John 20:20-28; Luke 24:36-43; Acts 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:6)
6. **Jesus' resurrected body looked the same as his pre-resurrected body**
 - Luke 24:31; John 21:7-12; John 20:16; John 20:14-15; 21:12; John 20:19; Luke 24:31, 36; 1 Corinthians. 15:44
7. **Jesus' resurrection was recorded as Scripture shortly after it occurred**
 - 1 Corinthians 15 + 1 Thessalonians is dated as written anywhere from 40-52AD. This is as few as seven years after the resurrection or as many as 19. Either way, Jesus' resurrection was openly discussed and not challenged because it was a fact that eye-witnesses had confirmed.
8. **Jesus' resurrection convinced his family to worship him as God**
 - John 7:5; 1 Cor. 15:7; James 1:1; Acts 12:17; 15:12-21; 21:18; Gal. 2:9; Acts 1:14; Acts 1:14; Jude
9. **Jesus' resurrection was confirmed by his most bitter enemies** (Phil. 3:4-6; Acts 7:54-60; Acts 9)

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OF THE RESURRECTION

1. Jesus' disciples were transformed (Remember Peter?)
2. Jesus' disciples remained loyal to Him, through severe persecution and even to death
3. The day of corporate worship changed
4. Women discovered the empty tomb
5. The entirety of early church preaching was centered on the historical fact of Jesus' resurrection
 - Sermons in Acts are always focussed on the resurrection
6. Jesus' tomb was not enshrined
7. Christianity exploded on the earth and is still growing to this day

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE OF THE RESURRECTION

1. **Thomas Arnold** – professor of modern history at Oxford – said this, “No one fact in the history of mankind is proven by better and fuller evidence of every sort than this one: Jesus Christ died and rose from the dead.”
2. **Josephus**, 1st century *NON-CHRISTIAN* Jewish historian, was employed by the state. His #1 job was to tell the truth by recording historical facts. Josephus writes, “Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works... A teacher of such men as received the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was the Christ, the anointed one of God. And when Pilate at the suggestion of the principal men among us had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again on the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold. These and 10,000 other wonderful things concerning him, and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct to this day.”

It's actually a far bigger leap of faith to deny the resurrection, and thus reject Jesus, than to believe the resurrection happened, and thus believe Jesus *IS* who he said He is.

Read and Exposit **John 20:1-29**

- **Q.** The question is *NOT* “Am I too big a sinner for Jesus to save?”
- **Q.** The question *IS* “Is Jesus a big enough Savior to save a wicked person like me, like Marry”? **HE IS!**

There is no one so great a sinner that the resurrected Jesus is not a greater Savior!

- **Q.** The question is *NOT* “Do you have doubts”?
- **Q.** The question *IS* “Will you look at the evidence and be assured out of your doubts, like Thomas”?

Jesus is not yelling at you to stop doubting, Jesus is showing you his nailed scared hands and feet as it were. This is why He has given us so much evidence of His resurrection!

- **Q.** Will you fall at Jesus feet and trust in Him as your Lord, God, and Savior of your soul?

Q. BUT! What exactly did Jesus' resurrection accomplish?

2. WHAT DID JESUS' RESURRECTION ACCOMPLISH FOR US?

HERE ARE 11 RESULTS OF JESUS' RESURRECTION!

1. A SAVIOR WHO CAN NEVER DIE AGAIN.

Romans 6:9 “We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.”

2. REPENTANCE.

Acts 5:31 “God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.”

3. NEW BIRTH.

1 Peter 1:3 “Blessed (praised!) be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.”

4. FORGIVENESS OF SIN.

1 Corinthians 15:17–20 “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 (physically died) in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead.”

5. JUSTIFICATION.

Romans 4:25 “[Jesus] was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.”

6. THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Acts 2:32–33 “This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.”

7. NO CONDEMNATION.

Romans 8:33–34 “Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.”

8. NEVER-ENDING PERSONAL FELLOWSHIP WITH JESUS.

Matthew 28:20 “And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

9. PROOF OF COMING JUDGEMENT.

Acts 17:31 “God has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

10. SALVATION FROM THE FUTURE WRATH OF GOD.

1 Thessalonians 1:10 “We wait for God's Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” (Romans 5:10)

11. OUR OWN RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD.

2 Corinthians 4:14 “We know that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us into his presence.” (Romans 6:4; 8:11; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:20)

JESUS' RESURRECTION PROMISES that He will resurrect those who trust Him in the same way.

CHRISTIANS WILL...

- ***Be given new***, glorified bodies.
- Never ***get sick***. **No cancer, no HIV, no AIDS, not even a common cold
- Never be ***depressed***.
- Never again ***wallow in guilt***.
- Never again ***feel fear***.
- Never again ***shrink back like a coward***.
- Never again ***mistreat anyone***.
- Never again ***sin*** **never even be tempted

ONE BIBLE TEACHER: “Peter was made to walk on water in his old body. Imagine what Jesus will enable you to do in your new one?”

CHRISTIANS WILL...

- ***See things*** more glorious than we have ever seen.
- ***Smell things*** more intriguing than we have ever smelled.
- ***Feel things*** more satisfying that we have ever felt.
- ***Hear things*** more beautiful that we have ever heard.
- ***See Jesus*** face to face (we will behold His glory!).
- ***We will be eternally joyful*** forever with Him.

Isaac Watts: “There we will see His face and never ever sin; there from the rivers of His grace drink endless pleasures in.”

BECAUSE JESUS! IS! ALIVE!