

Living the RESURRECTION

Philippians 3:1-15

Matthew 27:57-28:8

1 Corinthians 15:1-23

Happy Firstfruits



17 April 2022

Pressing Forward into 2022

- “Imitate me just as I imitate Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1)
- Do you inspire others to EXCEL and PRESS FORWARD?
- Are you an EXAMPLE to others in word, conduct, love, spirit, faith, and purity?
- Do you inspire others, by your example, to grow as disciples? (1 Tim 4:12)

He Is Risen Indeed! (Matthew 27:57-28:8)

- (v. 57) Joseph of Arimathea - a rich man. Fulfillment of Isaiah 53:9!
- (vv. 57-61) A NEW Tomb. It had to be in light of 2 Kings 13:14-21; Luke 23:53
- (vv. 62-65) A GUARD. A committed and dedicated detachment of at least 16 soldiers.
- (v. 66) A SEAL. This tomb was under the protection of the Roman government.
- (Matthew 28:1-2) “after the Sabbath_s” - there was three Sabbath_s this week!!!!
- (vv. 1-2) Another earthquake.
- (vv. 2-4) An ANGEL - the guard “shook in fear and became as dead men” - see Isaiah 37:35-36.
- (v. 6) “as HE said” - Matt 12:40; 16:21; 17:23.
- (v. 8) “with FEAR and GREAT JOY”

Who Is this Jesus? And What Did He Say?

- ❶ He claimed that He came from Heaven. (John 3:13; 6:33, 38, 51)
- ❷ He claimed to be GOD. (John 10:30-33)
- ❸ He claimed to be **without** SIN. (John 8:29, 46)
- ❹ He claimed to have the **authority** and **power** to forgive sin. (Luke 5:20-24; 7:48-49; Mark 2:5; Psalm 51:4)
- ❺ He claimed that He was the **ONLY** way to the GOD. (John 14:6)
- ❻ He claimed He would conquer DEATH! (John 10:18; 2:19)

If the Resurrection Did Not Happen, then . . . (1 Corinthians 15:12-19)

- ① If there is no resurrection, then Christ is not risen. (v. 13)
- ② If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is in vain. (v. 14)
- ③ If Christ is not risen, then our faith is in vain. (v. 14)
- ④ If Christ is not risen, we are liars. (v. 15)
 - Christ, the apostles, every evangelist, preacher, or Bible teacher that ever lived are all liars!
- ⑤ **If Christ is not risen, our faith is futile and we are still in our sins.** (v. 17; Romans 4:25)
- ⑥ If Christ is not risen, those who have died in Christ have perished! (v. 18)
- ⑦ If Christ is not risen, then we are the most pitiable people on earth. (v. 19)

Why Is the Resurrection So Important? (Romans 4:25)

- (Romans 4:25) - He was raised for our justification.
- To understand the significance of the **RESURRECTION** we have to go into GOD's **courtroom**.
- There we stand **unclean** in our **millions** of sins and our own **righteousness** which is nothing more than **filthy rags**. (Isaiah 64:6)
- There we stand before the **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Judge of All the Earth**. (Genesis 18:25; Isaiah 6:3; Hebrews 4:13)
- **WE ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE!** (Rom 1:20) **WE ARE GUILTY!** (Rom 3:19, 23)
- Our **wages** for **our** sins is **ETERNAL DEATH – ETERNAL SEPARATION FROM GOD!** (Rom 6:23a; Ezekiel 18:4; **Numbers 14:18; Exodus 34:6-7**)
- We stand there in **silence** (every mouth stopped) and then we hear the Judge of All the Earth say, **"I, the JUDGE of the UNIVERSE, and there is no other, declare (decree, judge, decide) YOU righteous!"**
- We cannot believe our EARS. For we **know** that a HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Judge can **only** justify a righteous person! (Proverbs 17:15). How can this be?
- HERE IS HOW –
 - **GOD**, NOT man, enters into a **covenant** with His Son before time began and put His people (His **elect**) "into Christ". (Ephesians 1:4; Titus 1:1-2; 2 Timothy 1:9; John 10:29)
 - **GOD**, NOT man, sends His Son into the world (John 1:14; 1 Timothy 3:16) to **live** a perfect life **for** His people (Romans 8:3-4) **and** die for His people. (John 10:11, 15)
 - **GOD**, NOT man, takes the sins of His people takes them OFF their account and **imputes** them unto His Son. (Isaiah 53:6)
 - ★ He makes Christ **sin**. (2 Corinthians 5:21)
 - ★ Christ becomes His people's **SURETY** and **accepts** their sins! (Hebrews 7:22; Psalm 69:5)
 - **GOD** sacrifices His Son, the Lamb of God, **for** His people. (Isaiah 53:10; Acts 2:23; 4:28; Romans 8:32) – THE GUILTY MUST DIE!

- **GOD**, NOT man, takes the righteousness of Christ, and **imputes** it to His people's account. (Romans 4:6-8; 5:17-18; Psalm 32:1-2)
- **GOD** accepts Christ **sacrifice** on our behalf and raise Christ from the dead and **JUSTIFIES** "the righteous!" – made righteous by God!
 - ★ He clothed us in HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS! (Isaiah 61:10; 1 Cor 1:30)
- **GOD** justifies His people "**FREELY**" (Romans 3:24) which is δωρεάν dorean (do-reh-an) which means "undeserved"; "**without cause**" (See John 15:25)

Living the Resurrection (Philippians 3:10-14)

- IF we rejoice in Christ's resurrection then we are **obligated** (desire to) LIVE IT.
 - Romans 6:4-8 - 1 John 2:6
- Paul's losses and gains. (Philippians 3:1-9) Paul **treasured** Christ above EVERYTHING ELSE. **What about you?**
- Paul's Single Aim in Life (Philippians 3:10-12)
 - ❶ To **KNOW** Christ.
 - This is not head knowledge for Paul already had that knowledge.
 - The biblical idea behind the verb "to know" has two meanings:
 - ① Nothing is truly known until it is practiced in life. (1 John 2:3-6; 1:7)
 - ② To enter into a **deep** intimate relationship with someone. (Gen. 4:1)
 - Paul was not satisfied with just the knowledge of Christ and to know about Him, but Paul wanted to live everyday with Him.
 - Paul wanted to "experience" Christ.
 - ❷ To **KNOW** the Power of Christ's Resurrection.
 - Paul knew about and wrote about the Resurrection. (1 Cor 15:12-58)
 - Paul wanted to "experience" the power of the resurrection.
 - Paul wanted to LIVE a godly life – to **walk** in the newness of life. (Romans 6:4-5)
 - Paul understood that before he was saved he was "dead" in his past life (Ephesians 2:1-3).
 - NOW he wanted to LIVE in the power of the resurrection be BE ALIVE to God. (Romans 6:11-13)
 - Paul wanted to "experience" Christ living in him. (Galatians 2:20)
 - Paul knew that this power existed! (Ephesians 1:15-23; 3:13-21)
 - ❸ To **KNOW** Christ in His Suffering
 - To know someone is to become ONE with that person.
 - Paul understood that knowing Christ in this way would bring suffering. (John 15:20; 2 Timothy 3:12) Paul was willing to obey (love, live) even at the cost of suffering.
 - Paul also understood that becoming more and more like Christ (Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18) he would come under attack from the enemy.
 - Paul's example was Christ! (1 Peter 2:21)

- Paul was willing to take up his cross and follow Christ. (Luke 9:23)
- Paul was willing to STAND **with** Christ. (See Hebrews 11:24-26)
- ④ To **ATTAIN** the Resurrection from the Dead
 - Paul **knows** that his eternal security is SURE. (Rom:29-30, 35-39; Philippians 1:6)
 - This is a different Greek word than in verse 10.
 - The idea that Paul is expressing is that he wants to be so spiritually alive (like Christ) that spiritually dead people see the difference between how he lives and how they are living. (Day and Night; Light and Darkness; Black and White)
 - He want to STAND OUT from among the masses! He wanted his entire life to be a reflection of Christ that people noticed!

What We Need Is Persistence (Philippians 3:12-14)

- Paul was dissatisfied with his “walk” but his standard was PERFECTION and to PRESS ON everyday! (v. 12)
- Paul forgets the past and “reaches forward” to that which in front of him. He “forgets” yesterday and LIVES today for Christ.
- Paul PRESSED toward the GOAL (being conformed into the image of Christ).
- “A man does not become a winning athlete by listening to lectures, watching movies, reading books, or cheering at the games. He becomes a winning athlete by getting into the game and determining to win!”
- ★ ARE YOU IN THE RACE? (See 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Hebrews 12:1-2)

Pressing Forward

- Be an inspiring example to others. Be an example in your desire, determination, discipline, diligence, and doing (obedience to God's Word). Do others see your complacency as a justification for their laziness or are others challenged by your example? (1 Timothy 4:12; 1 Corinthians 11:1; Philippians 3:17; 2 Thessalonians 3:9)
- Treasure and savor Christ above everything else. (Philippians 3:7-9)
- If you have been justified, declared righteous by God, then your life of righteousness will be evident to others. (1 John 2:29; 3:6-10; Rom 6:11-13)
- PRESS FORWARD toward the goal of being conformed into the image of Christ. (Philippians 3:13-14)