

He Is Not Here, For He Is Risen

Never to die again

(His Tomb Is Empty)

Text: Matthew 28:6

Introduction:

1. The greatest event in history took place nearly two thousand years ago.
 - a. A far reaching event that would change the lives of mankind.
 - b. With God reaching out to His lost creation – spanning the ages from the beginning of time.
2. Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God (*John 1:29*), sacrificed for our sins, our iniquities and our rebellion against our Creator (*Isaiah 53*).
 - a. He was persecuted relentlessly from the beginning of His ministry to death on the cross – that cruel cross of Calvary.
 - b. His mission was to do the Will of the Father and to provide salvation to mankind.
A mankind who had moved further and further away from God.
3. ‘*He Is Risen*’ – just three words, but because of these words and the events that surrounded these words the destiny of man changed from condemnation to redemption for those who name Jesus Christ as their Lord (*Luke 6:46; Acts 4:12; Hebrews 5:9*).
4. This morning we are going to look at some Scriptures that surround this event and see what impact this has on you and I.

I. It Was Prophesied That Christ Would Be Our Redeemer In The Garden Of Eden.

- A. Mankind had fallen from the grace of God by disobeying His commands. (*Genesis 2:17, 3:1-4*)
 1. Resulting on separation from God – they were removed from the Garden of Eden. (*Genesis 3:23-24*)
 2. Resulting upon death coming upon the human race. (*1 Corinthians 15:21-22*)
- B. A prophecy about Satan bruising the heel of Jesus but, Jesus in turn bruising the head of Satan. (*Genesis 3:15*)

II. Jesus Said That He Would Die And Be Raised In Three Days

- A. Destroy this temple and in three days I will rebuild it. (*Matthew 12:40; Mark 8:31; John 2:19-20*)
 1. His disciple did not understand His statement – even Peter rebuking Him for the statement. (*Mark 8:31-38*)
- B. Even the false witnesses that were brought before the council and Pilate told about Jesus statement of rising in three days – even though they thought He was talking about the Temple in Jerusalem. (*Matthew 26:61*)

III. Jesus Not Only Told What Would Happen, But It Did Happen

- A. “*The God of our fathers raised up Jesus..*”, (*Acts 5:30*)
- B. His Resurrection is the Foundation of the Gospel (*1 Corinthians 15:1-8*)
 1. Seen by Cephas, seen by 500, seen by Paul in due time (*Acts 9:3-6*)
 2. Seen in Christians today in their faith of the resurrection (*Hebrews 11:1*)
- C. Never to die again (*1 Corinthians 15:55-57*)

1. *Jesus said, “..I am alive forevermore..”, (Revelation 1:17-18)*
- D. Bringing redemption to mankind through His death, burial and resurrection.
- E. Conquering death
 1. Death is our greatest enemy and it has conquered all men but Christ. No man is wise enough to outwit death or wealthy enough to purchase freedom from death or strong enough to vanquish death. The grave always wins the victory and every person sooner or later returns to the dust. (Ecclesiastes 12:7)
 2. But Jesus Christ is alive! It is true that He died and was buried, is common with all other men, but unlike other men He returned from Hades, resurrected His own dead body, made it henceforth immortal, and emerged from the tomb, alive forevermore! This was the greatest of all miracles since the creation itself, and could have been accomplished only if Jesus indeed is God, as He had claimed to be.
- F. Conquering the one who had the power of death (Hebrews 2:14)

Conclusion:

1. What does this mean for you and I today?

- a. Yes, it was prophesied that Christ would come to earth to be the perfect sacrifice to bring back to God His fallen children.
- b. Yes, Jesus told us in the Scriptures that he would go to the cross and pay the penalty that we deserve, be buried and raised the third day.
- c. Yes, Jesus did what He said that He was going to do.
- d. Yes, Jesus has risen from the grave never to die again, defeating death in the process.
- e. What it means for you and I today is that because of the gospel’s message of Christ’s death, burial and resurrection:
 - i. It means the Father accepted the Son's offering for sin. It was proof of His deity. We have hope of redemption.
 - ii. We can have life through Him (eternal).
 - iii. We can have peace with our God our Creator.
 - iv. We can have peace with ourselves and others.
 - v. We can have a joy that the world does not have.
 - vi. We can have One who is with us and helps us in our time of need (every day we need Him) (Philippians 4:13).
 - vii. We can have One who, because of His resurrection that we in turn will be resurrected to life eternal.
 - viii. We have One, because of His resurrection that we may know that there is something beyond the grave.

ix. We know we can meet around the Lord's table upon the first day of the week remembering what He has done for us.

x. We know that a judgment day is guaranteed, whereby we will be judged by the Great Judge of the Universe.

f. Yes, we can have all of this **because of His resurrection.**

i. We do not have to suffer the second death (*separation from God for eternity*).

ii. We can be a part of Him today in obedience to His commands that He has left us with in His Word.

iii. If you are not a Christian today, obey the gospel message by: believing that Jesus is the Christ (**John 8:24**), repenting of your sins (**Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38**), confessing His Name before men (**Acts 8:37**), being immersed for the remission of your sins (**Acts 2:38**) and remaining steadfast until the end (**Acts 2:42**).