

Jesus Has Risen!

4-21-19

Matthew 28:1–6 (ESV)

28 Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary **went to see the tomb.** ² And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³ His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴ And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. ⁶ **He is not here, for HE HAS RISEN!**”

The Resurrection was of paramount importance from the very beginning. Twenty-five years after Jesus’ crucifixion, Paul was still declaring Jesus’ resurrection of first importance!

FIRST IMPORTANCE

1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (ESV)

³ For I delivered to you as of **first importance** what I also received: that Christ died for our sins **in accordance with the Scriptures,** ⁴ that he was buried, that **HE WAS RAISED** on the third day **in accordance with the Scriptures.**

After Jesus’ crucifixion, Jesus’s followers were devastated and thought their faith in Jesus had been in vain. However after Jesus had risen, HE appeared to HIS distraught followers.

1 Corinthians 15:5–8 (ESV)

⁵ Jesus appeared to Cephas, then **he appeared** to the twelve. **⁶ Then he appeared** to more than five hundred brothers at one time. **⁷ Then he appeared** to James, then **he appeared** to all the apostles. **⁸ Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared** also to me.

The resurrection has always been of first importance. Without the resurrection of Jesus, the Christian faith is of no importance whatsoever.

OUR PREACHING IS WORTHLESS!

1 Corinthians 15:14 (ESV)

And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.

OUR FAITH IS WORTHLESS!

1 Corinthians 15:17 (ESV)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION, EVERYONE ON EARTH IS BETTER OFF THAN WE ARE!

1 Corinthians 15:19 (ESV)

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION WE SHOULD EXTRAVAGANTLY PURSUE ALL THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD!

1 Corinthians 15:32 (ESV)

If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.”

However this is not true! Jesus has risen!

1 Corinthians 15:20 (ESV)

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead!

**THEREFORE, BECAUSE JESUS HAS RISEN, OUR
PREACHING IS NOT IN VAIN, OUR FAITH IS
POWERFUL, AND WE HAVE ETERNAL HOPE.**

JESUS HAS RISEN AND WE TRUST HIS PROMISES!

John 14:2 (ESV)

In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that **I go to prepare a place for you?**

THE RISEN JESUS WANTS US TO BE WHERE HE IS!

John 14:3 (ESV)

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that **where I am you may be also.**

**PAUL AND ALL WHO SAW THE RISEN JESUS KNEW
THERE WAS LIFE AFTER DEATH AND THEY LOOKED
FORWARD TO BE WITH JESUS!**

Philippians 1:21–23 (ESV)

21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two. **My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better.**

AS ALL THE EARLY CHRISTIANS, WE LOOK FOR A GREATER DAY, LIFE ETERNAL IN THE PRESENCE OF JESUS! THEREFORE HERE ON THIS EARTH, WE LIVE OUR LIFE FOR JESUS!

1 Corinthians 15:58 (ESV)

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, **always abounding in the work of the Lord**, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

JESUS HAS RISEN AND ALL WE DO FOR HIM IS NOT IN VAIN! BECAUSE JESUS HAS RISEN, WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE AN ETERNAL HOME IN HEAVEN WITH HIM AND WE DECLARE THIS GOOD NEWS!

John 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.