

# The Twofold Power of His Resurrection

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**Bible Text:** Philippians 3:10, 21  
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It was the angel who said, "He is not here for he is risen." What a glorious proclamation that was and is today. We come today to celebrate life, resurrection life.

We have two texts today which is a little different for me but because we're going to speak about the twofold power of the resurrection, the dual power of the resurrection, so our text today, we have two. The first one is found in Philippians 3:10 which says,

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

We will discuss what that resurrection power is that the Lord has for his children and then our other text will come from the same chapter, verse 21,

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

The second part of our message this morning will be devoted toward what the Lord and the provision he has made even for our body if we be in Christ, what the Lord has done, what he has. And that's what truly today is all about. What has the Lord Jesus Christ done? What has he done for you? What is he doing for you? What will he do for you? And I pray this morning that the power of the Holy Ghost would be upon this message as we bow our heads now in prayer asking the Lord for that very thing.

*Dear heavenly Father, I pray that thy blessing would be upon thy word this morning, that you would be pleased, O Lord, to attend this time. Lord, thou knoweth that I am weak this morning and I pray, Lord, that you would be my strength, that you would loosen my lips to speak this precious Gospel on this precious day, Lord, that we celebrate your resurrection. And Lord, show us this day, show thy people in this room that if we be in thee, O Lord, what that means to us today and what that will mean to us in another day, that thou art pleased to reveal. O Lord, glorify your name this day and may you be glorified. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

So this morning we begin in verse 10. Paul said, "That I may know him," and that's quite a remarkable statement because what we've read about Paul, what we've heard about Paul, what we've seen on the road to Damascus, what we understand about Paul's life is that Paul knew him. Paul knew him intimately. Paul knew that the Lord was his Lord. Paul was revealed that Christ was life and for Paul to be brought to say something like this, "that I may know him and the power of his resurrection," shows us that in the life of the child of God it is an ongoing display of the Lord's power in our soul.

Paul is speaking about knowing the presence of the Lord and his victory, his power over sin. That's what the power of the resurrection is. It shows and reveals the child of God that sin no longer can have or claim victory over the child of God, but not just sin, there is despair. We have despair all of our lives. We look at things in this life, we look at the world and all of the headlines in the world, there is enough there every day to cause the child of God to despair but resurrection life is power over despair, but not just despair, it's over darkness. The power of the resurrection of Christ and the life of Christ is power over darkness. There is so much darkness in our soul, there is so much darkness in our mind that we stand just like the Apostle Paul does here and says that I might know the power of the resurrection. That the Lord would continue to teach me. He says later in this chapter, not as though he has attained. There is not a place in this life that we get to that we are no longer susceptible to sin. As long as we live in these members, as long as we live on this earth, we will have sin in these members, we will have sin in our mortal body. That's what we celebrate today, the life that we have over that sin is resurrection life, but we also celebrate a finality and a defeating of that sin when the Lord raises this body and he raises it without sin and he raises it as Paul says here today, he changes this vile body. What makes it vile? It's vile because of sin.

So in the resurrection power of the Lord Jesus Christ, he has power over all those things I mentioned but he also has power over affliction. I shared with my class this week and with my children last night this sickness that I've had the last couple of weeks and I still feel it today. I feel a weakness and whatever this flu was or whatever this sickness was, it just zaps you of all of your energy. But in the height of this affliction when the fever was so high and the misery was so high, I remember laying there and I didn't care, I honestly did not care what happened to me. I felt such a lifelessness and a deadness in my body because it just lay there lifeless and I couldn't move, I couldn't call out for help. My son experienced the same thing when his fever got over 104. He said, "Dad, I have never felt this way before in my life." And that misery and affliction, that affliction that attacks this body can bring the child of God into despair and into a hopeless situation but it's the power of the resurrected Lord, it is the power of Christ to subdue that, to give us life even in our very self that seems so dead at times.

You know the deadness I talk about. We even feel that deadness on the Lord's day. You may feel that today. I can honestly say I don't. I feel the power of the Lord upon me this morning. I feel the power of the Lord's resurrection, that he is victorious and me being in him makes me victorious. And I may not understand the depth or the power of the Lord and how his ways are so much higher than mine, but the fact that he gives the faith to believe and that's what Ephesians 1 tells us. It's the same power that raised Christ out of

the grave is the same power that it takes for you and I to believe today, to believe that he is the resurrected Lord and to believe it with all of our heart and to believe it knowing that the Lord is risen and that grave was empty and that tomb was empty and it was triumphantly Christ coming up and defeating death and defeating the grave and defeating the world and defeating the wicked one. And those were four things I hadn't mentioned, that the power of the resurrection is power over.

And that's the beauty of what the resurrection is in Christ. I said the twofold power. We experience that in this life. We experience the power of the resurrected Lord in this life, yes, even when we're carrying this old nature and this old man around with us who will never be reformed, who will never get better. But even in that, in the day that we die as our body returns back to the ground, the Lord, he has made every provision for the child of God. And even that body of ours that sin is part of, he overruled. That's what 21 tells us. He is able even to subdue all things unto himself. And Paul will later say what a great mystery it is. It is. It's a mystery to the world and the world will never understand because it's by the faith of the Son of God that power, that same resurrection power is what we must have to believe it and to live it.

It must be all of him. That's what I say today. I hope if you take nothing out of this message, that you see it is truly all of him. It is truly today is about him. It's not about you and me, it's about him and about his triumph, and he triumphs every day in the child of God's life as he reveals himself as the victor over sin, as the victor over bondage and death. This is resurrection life.

That's what John 11:25 tells us, "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." He then asked the question, "Do you believe this?" And as I said last night, I was telling my children as we were thinking about that night that Christ was still in the grave and how all the people, all the disciples, there was such despair because they couldn't believe. They could not believe without Christ's power. They could not believe even though it was prophesied that he would rise again, even though he said he would rise again. You can't get there, you can't bring yourself to believe and to accept the finished work of Christ. That's all of him. That's what we owe our life to. When he said, "I am the resurrection and the life," those two things go hand-in-hand. He has triumphantly come out of the grave so that you and I live today.

Turn with me to Romans 6. We're going to go a couple of places today. Romans 6, we're going to talk first and foremost about this resurrection power and what it is. Romans 6 starts out this way, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid." How did God forbid it? By the resurrection of his Son. He is triumphant over sin. You and I as we live on this earth and we continue to sin by the law that wars in our mind that Paul said, in our members that continues to sin, it doesn't have dominion over the child of God. That's the beauty of what we celebrate today, that the Lord reveals life in this life and then he reveals his power to prepare us for the life to come.

"God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" That when Christ died, we died with him and when he rose from the grave, we rose with him? That's what Paul's message of the Gospel is, is that we if we are in Christ in this eternal vital union, these are all the blessings that we have in this union because of Christ, because of what he has done as a triumphant Son of God who is reigning today as King and Lord, reigning over death, reigning over all of our enemies, reigning over our unbelief.

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." That is resurrection life. It's newness of life. It's seeing Christ as reigning, as ruling. And that was the other thing I told my wife, I said, "You know, when the Lord brought me out of the sickness and he started giving me more strength and clarity of mind, he brought me to thank him for that sickness." Because when the Lord empties you of yourself and however way he uses that, it really puts into perspective what life really is and all the petty things and all the things going on in the world, they're really meaningless. They absolutely are and all the little things that are going on in my family or the families around me, they're meaningless. They're absolutely meaningless in comparison to the resurrection life of Christ, that he is life. He is triumphant life for his children.

"We also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed." We'll talk more about that in a few minutes. "That henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin. Now if we be dead with Christ," this is those examination passages, "if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him." That's one of the things the world will never understand is that you must die to live. Every child of God must die to self, die to his mind, to his theology, to his worldly allurements, to what he is in this world. He must die to all of that and when that death occurs, resurrection life comes forth.

"Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him." And if you and I be risen with him, it has no dominion over you and me. That's what we celebrate today.

"For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon," ponder it, think about it, think about what this means, Paul says. What does this mean? "Reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin." Dead unto sin. Sin, you have no power over me, even though at times it seems like he has dominion over us. "But alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Peter said it this way in 1 Peter 1:3, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ while according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." That living hope is what we celebrate today. I hope when you rose this morning and the Lord brought forth what this day really is, that it means something

to you; that your soul leaps for joy because of the resurrection life that you have in you because of Christ.

Now let's turn over to Colossians 3 real quick. And what is the power of the resurrection? Well, Paul tells us, "If ye then be risen with Christ," here are some things to look for. If you today are risen with Christ, if Christ's resurrection power is the power of your life, is the power of your soul, if you then be risen with Christ, "seek those things which are above." Do you seek those things which are above? Above means not of this life, of this earth. Seek those things which are above. Who is reigning above? Christ.

"Seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth." This is the power of resurrection life in the child of God. It transforms his mind from living here on this earth to living up in the heavens where his Lord is reigning. His Lord is reigning everywhere and that's what his Lord shows him, he reigns everywhere and he reigns over all of these things that seem to be so important to us every day. And I'm ashamed to say it but I'm thankful to say it, that it took a very bad affliction for the Lord to humble me and show me that in this life, that this life is not life. Resurrection life in Christ is life. He is the way, the truth and the life.

"For ye are dead." Paul keeps saying that. You're dead. What are you dead to? Are you dead to the world? Are you dead to the riches of this world? Are you dead to the names of this world? Are you dead to man-centeredness in this world? Do you have to please men? Do you care what man thinks about you?

"For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Listen to that just a minute. Your life is hid with Christ in God. Would you want it to be hid anywhere else? Think about that. That is the preservation of the saints right there. We are hid with Christ in God. If that isn't eternal security, I don't know what is. That's what resurrection power shows us. That's what it reveals to us, that we are not a slave and that we are not a servant of all of those things that I mentioned that Christ's was victorious over.

"When Christ who is our life," is that true today? "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." When Christ appears in our soul, when Christ comes for us, that's how we appear with him. It's all of him. I hope you don't hear anything contrary to that today. This is what he has done. He has made every provision for the child of God in this life and the life to come. He is faithful. He is triumphant. He is the Son of God. He is the Christ, the Son of the living God.

John in John 14:19, Jesus said, "Yet a little while and the world seeth me no more, but ye see me." Yeah, the world saw him no more but you and I today still see him and we see him by faith and I hope this hour you see him, you see him and you feel the power of the resurrection in your soul. "Because I live," Jesus said, "ye shall live also." That's one of those shalls and wills. It's written than he is life, he is the Giver of life, he is the Sustainer of life. He is life. That's what he said right there, "Because I live, because I live, because I

triumphantly came out of the grave, because I have ascended up to the Father, because I am reigning, because I live, you shall live also."

And that to me is the power of the resurrection that Paul wanted to know in our text today, "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death." I think I've explained enough about what the Lord had brought me through lately, that he revealed the power in that, to be conformable in the likeness unto his death, what it feels like to be dead and for life to come forth and for Christ to take over and to reign. I told my wife one day this week which I know probably shocked her a little bit because I was still on the weak side and it's still been a struggle just to do anything hardly, but I told her I don't feel like any time in my life I have ever been as content as I was and am. And what do I owe that to? Christ flooding my soul with his resurrection power and showing me that he has made provision for me in every way I could possibly imagine and even more.

And that brings us to our second text today because we also celebrate today this passage here in 21, "Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body." You know, that's a mouthful right there and I understand, you know, what Paul says here. Paul never wavered about the struggle he had in his life. Paul said in Romans 7:24, "O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" There is, as we will see here in a few moments, there is Christ in us, the children of God, the seed of Christ that dwells in us that causes us to cry out for deliverance from this body, this body of death.

It's an amazing thing. I'm inadequate to even speak about it, that when you read something like this, "Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body," that alone right there, to think that what Christ will raise from the dead, from the grave, will be just like his body. I can't imagine that. I have lived in this body for almost 47 years and it's always had sin. Yours has always had sin. Everyone we look at and everyone we come in contact with are sinners. Our Bibles tell us that. We don't know what this change will be or what it could possibly be for Christ to raise our body and to raise it without sin. It is one of the greatest mysteries as Paul will call it here in a few minutes, but what it does, once again, is it shows us that it is truly all of him.

Romans 8, Paul writes in verses 10 and 11, he says, "And if Christ be in you," now there's our question today, "if Christ be in you," if what you have heard today you say, "You know, I know that resurrection power. I know that Christ has revealed himself to me." "And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin." It's true, this body is a body, resurrection life and being regenerated in this life didn't touch the body. It made the soul alive. It brought forth life in the soul. But that's the beauty, the Lord has made provision even for the body. That's what we celebrate today, his resurrected body and our bodies being resurrected because of him.

"And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you," there's the question. That same Spirit that dwells in you, "he that raised up Christ from

the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you." As I said, it's all of him. Nothing you and I will ever do will prepare this body. Paul tells us in Ephesians that we kind of like this body; that man is always exercising it or what man is it that doesn't care for his flesh. And it's true. You know when your body is hurting or there is something wrong with your body, you want to go to the doctor and take care of that body but you will never eradicate your body of sin. Never. It will always in this life be part of you. That's what we celebrate today. The resurrection life that we have to see it and the resurrection of this body that will come out of the grave, be risen by the same Spirit that will quicken our mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Later in verse 23, he says, "And not only this," he's talking about the creature and that's the thing. I told you the new nature, the Christ in us, the seed of Christ, you don't realize it, you don't realize that there is a part of you if you be in Christ that is calling out for the Lord to eradicate this body of sin. That's what he said.

"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit." Remember that word, that's very important. "Even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." That's something, like I said, it just blows my mind that our new nature...but it makes sense, doesn't it, that our new nature wants to be rid of this warfare too that the body has in it, the sin and this old nature?

But when is that going to take place? Well, before we go to 1 Corinthians, let's go over to Job real quick. Job saw it. Job 19 as the Lord revealed it to his saints throughout the ages. Job 19, beginning in verse 25, "For I know that my redeemer liveth." My Lord Jesus Christ liveth. He hasn't even walked this earth yet but Job said, "I know that he liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body," yes, your body will be laid in the grave and it will return back to dust, after worms destroy this body, "yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me." That is resurrection power. He knows that he will see the Lord again even in the same body. But is it the same body? It's the same body but it's raised a different body but our text gives us the whole key to that today because our text tells us that it is our vile body that will be changed, "Who shall change our vile body."

Now, where are we going? 1 Corinthians 15 and I know it's long and I don't plan on preaching from the whole passage, we'll just start in verse 12, "Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?" Well, we still have that today. Paul faced that in his day. There were religious people and not only just religious people, of course, there were people that didn't believe and people who thought it was all nonsense just like there are today.

It's amazing. I read some things this morning about things that were on the news and people who wrote things about this day and when you read the comments of man afterwards, "Oh what a farce. I can't believe you believe in such. The scientific evidence has never proved this. There has never been this. There has never been that." There is so

much unbelief in the world. So much and as soon as we go to point the finger, it has to be pointed back to us. It's just like the disciples, all that unbelief until the Lord revealed himself that he had truly risen. You and I are the same way, we won't believe it without the power of his resurrection, without his power to see.

"Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain." Paul said, "What reason is there to preach?" That's the Gospel message is that Christ has risen from the dead. And there are some, "Oh no, we don't believe that." Well, that's right because you don't have the faith of the Son of God. And listen, I know you want to get angry at people, I know that you want to tell people off and say, "You know, you're lost and you're going to hell because you don't believe," but listen: faith is a gift of God. It's the Lord's sovereign plan of salvation to reveal that faith and to give that faith to every one of his children, the faith of the Son of God. So may the Lord give us patience and longsuffering to suffer with those that may scoff at what the Lord has revealed to us because he is sovereign over who believes.

"Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." If Christ didn't rise, if he didn't come out of that grave, the grave won. Death won. Sin won. Is that the case? Is that the case for the child of God? Absolutely not. That's what we have today. That's what we celebrate, the power of Christ's resurrection.

"Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished." I love verse 19, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ," if we don't believe in the resurrection of Christ, if we don't believe that we are resurrected with him, if we don't believe that Christ is the firstfruits of our resurrection, then do you know what we have? Misery. That's it. We have man. We have nothing. We have no life. We have no Lord that has not made any provision for every one of his children.

And that's what Paul says, "we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits." He was first. When Christ rose from the dead, all of his children will rise with him. He guaranteed it in his resurrection. He's the firstfruits. He was the first one. He brought all of them with him. And yes, as I've said today, we will experience that resurrection twofold, the power to live in this life, the power of his resurrection that conquers everything by the faith that he gives, and the power over the grave as he's going to talk about here in the changing of these vile bodies.

"For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die," we certainly believe that, every man is dead in Adam, but I hope you believe, "even so in Christ," there is that vital union, "in Christ shall all be made alive," all that are in Christ. "But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits," he tells you right there, "afterward they that are Christ's at his coming."

Now, we're going to fast forward a little bit. As I said, we're not going to do the whole thing so we pick right back up in 35, "But some man will say," it's true, "How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come?" That's what man does, they question everything. "Well, now what kind of body is it? What body? Let's talk about what kind of body this is because that's the important thing, right?"

No. In fact, Paul is not very kind, he's very straight and direct in his answer and he says, "You fool." Fool for what? Because your mind is on what man does today. "Where is the scientific proof? What body is it going to be? What is it?" Paul said, "Thou fool. Don't you understand?" "Well, yeah. No, Paul, we need you to explain it to us again."

"That which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die." Remember, our Lord is the only Lord. All of these other false gods that have ever been could not bring life out of death, could never bring life from death. But this Lord, the Lord of these Scriptures, the Lord of life, the Lord of glory, he will bring life even from death. That's what we've seen today. You must experience death physically and spiritually for the Lord to reveal life physically and spiritually.

"And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God," here's the answer, "God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body." What do you call that? I call it sovereignty.

God has made bodies of different kinds, "All flesh is not the same flesh: but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of beasts, another of fishes, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies, and bodies terrestrial: but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another." Why is he telling us all this? To get us to the contrasting of the two bodies: the one of the earth and the one that's spiritual.

"There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory." Finally, "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption." It goes down into the grave in corruption. It is what Paul said, "O wretched man that I am, who shall deliver me from this body of death?" Then it goes on to thank the Lord Jesus Christ because the Lord Jesus Christ is the only one that can deliver us from this body of death. That's what we celebrate today, the Lord Jesus Christ who has the keys of heaven and hell and death and all of life and he is the only answer, the only power that could ever do what Paul says here that he has done and will do.

"So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption: It is sown in dishonour; it is raised in glory: it is sown in weakness; it is raised in power." Remember our text, what Paul said: who shall change? This is the Lord Jesus Christ, he's saying, "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body?" Okay, it is sown a natural body. It goes into the grave a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. Do you

see the contrast? Paul is not talking about a ghost. He is not talking about a substance that doesn't have substance. He is comparing the natural with the spiritual. How do we define spiritual? Without sin. That body that will be raised from the dead will come up, it will be changed from the vileness that it was to a spiritual body, one without sin. That's what he says here. Remember we read that "waiting for the redemption of our body, the adoption of our body"? This is what we're groaning for. This is what our new nature wants so bad is this body to be raised without sin.

"It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam," and I stress that "last Adam," meaning he is the last, he is the final authority, he is the final say, the last Adam, "was made a quickening spirit." That's what Christ did. He is a quickening spirit to quicken this body.

"Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual," not it wasn't, it was natural, "but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy," that's where Adam came from, from the earth, "the second man is the Lord from heaven." That's the body that'll be raised, a spiritual body like unto his body.

"As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall," there is another one of those shalls, it means it's written in stone, "we shall also bear the image of the heavenly." By him.

"Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God." Do you hear that? It's not your natural body. It's not this body that you see up here that's going to go into the grave, it is a spiritual body that's changed and it's not going to have flesh and blood but it will have a substance.

I love this because Paul then says, "neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." He says, "Behold, I shew you a mystery." Do you hear that? I show you a mystery. The Lord has opened the heavens and he's revealed it to me and he said, "This is such a mystery. I know that the words that I've said cannot do it justice. His ways are so much higher than my ways." It's a mystery. Yes, it is. How do we understand it? By the same faith that it takes to raise Christ, that same power, that's how you and I will understand it. That's how you and I will accept it. That's how you and I will sit at his feet and accept his word as the authority in our life.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." Isn't that what he said in Philippians, our passage? He shall change this vile body.

"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass," oh, how precious this is. May the Lord come with power to your soul now in this hour to ask you these questions. If truly he has made all provisions, all provisions for your soul and your body, then, "Death is swallowed up

in victory? O death, where is thy sting?" There is no death for the child of God. Blessed are they that die in the Lord. These are the privileges we have in Christ Jesus by Christ Jesus in this eternal vital union.

"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" You have no victory over me today.

"The sting of death is sin." How true that is. The only reason we fear death is because of sin, being revealed what sinners we are. What will it be? The wages of sin is death. That causes great trepidation and it will always cause trepidation. We are subject all our lives to the fear of death until Christ comes to our soul to display his resurrection power.

"The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God." Amen, Brother Paul. "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." And there is no other victory. Is there anything that he has not made provision for us today for this life and the life to come?

"Therefore, my beloved," if that's true, "my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable." May the Lord strengthen you in his finished work. "Always abounding," in what though? "In the work of the Lord." That's what I said, I hope you see today it's all of him. He is worthy to be praised. He is worthy to be exalted because of what he has done and will do.

"Always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

*Dear heavenly Father, may you add your power, your clarity and most importantly, Lord, thyself. Come with power to our souls for the glory of thee and may you, Lord, reign in our souls to reveal what great things thou hast done, that you truly have subdued all under thy feet for thy children and they church. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*