

Theme: The Power of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is not limited to our hope for the life to come, a future hope. Its impact is seen and felt in every aspect and activity of our life each day! If it is not, you do not know that power.

Introduction/Background:

- Why don't we speak more of the resurrection?
- Why are liberals afraid of a physical resurrection?

I. What is the resurrection?

A. It is *not*

1. Resuscitation.

- a. Jesus did that easily
- b. Jesus was not resuscitated
 - His body was “real”
 - But without its former limitations

2. Reincarnation

- a. It is *His* body – not another
- b. You don't get endless chances to “get it right”
 - Hebrews 9:27

B. It *is*

1. A true *physical* rising from the dead

- 3:21!!

2. The body “made new”

- Without sin or the effects of sin
- For Christ? A *glorious* body (3:21)
- For Us? A body that is “incorruptible” (1 Corinthians 15:49)

II. What is the *power* of the resurrection?

A. **Restoration**

1. Fellowship with God

- God walked with Adam & Eve!
- That “fellowship” is restored in the resurrection (1 Corinthians 1:9)

2. Relationship

- The end of Isolation
- Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5
- All the dead prophets of “religion” are just that – Dead!
- Jesus is our *living* Lord (1 Corinthians 15:45)

B. Eternal Life

- I will be raised! (Romans 6:5)

C. Transformation

1. Spiritual transformation!!

a. I am being changed! 2 Corinthians 3:18; Ephesians 4:24

b. Bondage to freedom

c. Enemy to friend

2. A physical transformation!

- A body like His (Philippians 3:21)

- A body incorruptible (1 Corinthians 15)

D. Contentment! (4:11)

1. Anxious about nothing 4:6

2. Every need supplied 4:19

3. Life rests in the hope of the Resurrection!

NOTE: In this life we move through days of pain and sorrow that bring fear and doubt. It is the resurrection that promises hope and joy.

E. Purpose in Life

- 1 Corinthians 15:56

III. Are You Living In that Power?

1. Jesus is more than a moral example

2. Jesus is not a dead savior

3. Experience the power of the resurrection

- In Christ

- In restored fellowship

- In new relationship

- In contentment and peace

- In a life that matters!