

Behold the Risen Savior!

John 20

April 9, 2023

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Jesus' resurrection proves His offer of salvation is genuine.

- I. Jesus followers initially thought someone had stolen His body. (v. 1-10)**
- II. The risen Lord Jesus first revealed Himself to the most unlikely of individuals. (v. 11-18)**
- III. Later that same day with the disciples locked away for fear they too would be arrested and executed, Jesus miraculously appeared among them.**
- IV. Even the most skeptical of the Apostles believed when Jesus appeared once again.**

Why does Jesus Resurrection Matter?

- 1. There is life after death and Jesus resurrection proves His sovereign power over them.**

I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed—in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: “Death has been swallowed up in victory.”

“Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 15:50-57)

- 2. Everything Jesus taught and said was true.**

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one.”

Again his Jewish opponents picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus said to them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these do you stone me?”

“We are not stoning you for any good work,” they replied, “but for blasphemy, because you, a mere man, claim to be God.” (John 10:27-33)

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)

3. Jesus promises to come back to claim His own and judge the world is also true.

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. You believe in God; believe also in me. My Father’s house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. (John 14:1-3)

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18)

For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so the Son gives life to whom he is pleased to give it. Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son, that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him.

“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life. Very truly I tell you, a time is coming and has now come when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live. For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself. And he has given him authority to judge because he is the Son of Man.

“Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and come out—those who have done what is good will rise to live, and those who have done what is evil will rise to be condemned. By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me. (John 5:21-30)

V. John was inspired by God to record these things so that you and I might believe and receive eternal life. (v. 30-31)

What must I do to be saved?

1. There is only One true and living God, our Creator.

I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. (Isaiah 45:5a)

2. This God has holy and righteous standards.

For it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:16)

Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

3. Every single one of us has failed to live up to those standards.

... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... (Romans 3:23)

4. Therefore, we all deserve punishment in hell.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23)

5. God the Father in love, mercy and grace sent Jesus to the cross to pay our sin debt so that our sins can be forgiven.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace (Ephesians 1:7)

There is nothing we can do to earn our way to heaven.

- We must admit to God our sin and our need.

...if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!” (Galatians 2:21b)

- We must believe that Jesus died for our sins and rose again.

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

- We must ask God to forgive us solely on the basis of Jesus’ sacrifice on our behalf.

All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. (Acts 10:43)

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. (Romans 10:9)

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)