

“The Meaning of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ”

INTRODUCTION:

3 gifts that the resurrection of Christ offers us.

According to **Rom. 5:15-17** (NLT):

- 1.) Gift of Grace (v. 15a)
- 2.) Gift of Forgiveness (v. 15c)
- 3.) Gift of Righteousness (v. 17b)

“For all who receive it (gift of righteousness) will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ!”

How do we receive these gifts? Acts 2:36-41

“36 ‘So let everyone in Israel know for certain that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both Lord and Messiah!’

37 Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’

38 Peter replied, ‘Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.’ 40 Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, ‘Save yourselves from this crooked generation!’

41 Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.”

BODY:

The resurrection of Jesus Christ gives hope to all followers of Jesus Christ (Christians).

There’s a decades old article by Kevin Halloran on www.opentheBible.org that lays out 10 reasons why Jesus’ resurrection is so important.¹ Some of tonight’s lesson will be taken from excerpts of this article.

9 Reasons Why Jesus’ Resurrection Is So Important

- 1.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ means Believers are now justified before God (Rom. 4:25)

“He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.”

¹Halloran, Kevin. <https://openthebible.org/article/the-meaning-of-the-resurrection-of-jesus-christ/#:~:text=The%20resurrection%20of%20Jesus%20Christ%20gives%20Christians%20a%20living%20hope.&text=Being%20forgiven%20of%20sin%20and,can%20never%20be%20taken%20away> Open The Bible.com. *The Meaning of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ*. March 30, 2013.

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2.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ shows that Jesus defeated death (Rom. 6:23)

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

3.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ allows us to live a new life (Rom. 5:18, 6:4)

“5:18 Yes, Adam’s one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ’s one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and new life for everyone.”

“6:4 For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives.”

4.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ confirms the truth of Old Testament Scripture

a. Job 19:25, *“For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth.”*

b. Isa. 53:10-12

5.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ proves the Gospel to be true.

“12 But tell me this—since we preach that Christ rose from the dead, why are some of you saying there will be no resurrection of the dead? 13 For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless. 15 And we apostles would all be lying about God—for we have said that God raised Christ from the grave. But that can’t be true if there is no resurrection of the dead. 16 And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. 17 And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. 18 In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! 19 And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

20 But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.”

6.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ proves that Jesus is the Son of God (Rom. 1:2-4)

“2 God promised this Good News long ago through his prophets in the holy Scriptures. 3 The Good News is about his Son. In his earthly life he was born into King David’s family line, 4 and he was shown to be the Son of God when he was raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit. He is Jesus Christ our Lord.”

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7.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that God the Father will give His Holy Spirit to Believers (John 15:26 & 27; Acts 2:33)

“15:26 “But I will send you the Advocate —the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me. 27 And you must also testify about me because you have been with me from the beginning of my ministry.”

“2:33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.”

8.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that we will be raised like Him (1 Cor. 15:21 & 22, 42-44)

Christ is described as the first fruits of the resurrection from the dead, meaning that His resurrection is a precursor to the resurrection that all believers will experience (1 Corinthians 15:20). “For as by a man came death,” wrote the apostle Paul, “by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:21-22).

Believers in Jesus Christ will enjoy resurrection life just like Christ did, with glorified bodies raised in power (1 Corinthians 15:42-44). We may suffer in this life with pains and illnesses, but we will not suffer in the life to come. All earthly suffering has an expiration date, but the pleasures of heaven will never end.

9.) The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that Christ will judge the world in righteousness (Acts 17:30 & 31).

“30 God overlooked people’s ignorance about these things in earlier times, but now he commands everyone everywhere to repent of their sins and turn to him. 31 For he has set a day for judging the world with justice by the man he has appointed, and he proved to everyone who this is by raising him from the dead.”

The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.

Isa. 13:9-11, *“9 For see, the day of the Lord is coming—the terrible day of his fury and fierce anger. The land will be made desolate, and all the sinners destroyed with it. 10 The heavens will be black above them; the stars will give no light. The sun will be dark when it rises, and the*

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moon will provide no light. 11 “I, the Lord, will punish the world for its evil and the wicked for their sin. I will crush the arrogance of the proud and humble the pride of the mighty.”

Rev. 6:15-17 says, *“15 Then everyone—the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person—all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. 16 And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, “Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. 17 For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?”*

CONCLUSION:

2 Peter 3:9-10

“9 The Lord isn’t really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as unexpectedly as a thief. Then the heavens will pass away with a terrible noise, and the very elements themselves will disappear in fire, and the earth and everything on it will be found to deserve judgment.”

Every person who has ever lived will be held accountable by God for what they have done. Unbelievers will be held accountable for breaking God’s law and face the condemnation in hell. God will hold believers accountable for their works and will reward them in heaven. The sign God gave to confirm this fact was the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

If you do not believe in Jesus Christ, this judgment should cause tremendous fear. You will face the wrath of God and suffer an eternity in hell because of your sins. But this judgment does not have to be a thing to dread.