

## Resurrection Sunday - Victory!

*The two angels said, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5,6*

He is risen, He is risen indeed!

*"Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. 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 15:1-4*

### **Christ died for our sins**

*"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous." Romans 5:17-19*

Jesus has defeated death that Adam brought into the world through sinning with Eve in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3). God paid the penalty of our sin - which is death - with the death of his own son Jesus on the cross at Calvary. Jesus died for the sins of mankind (1John 2:2).

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

On account of our death penalty for sin being paid, Jesus offers the gift of eternal life to those who repent, confess their sins and believe in him as Savior.

*"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 15:54-57*

On account of Jesus' victory on the cross, for those who have confessed sin and believe in Jesus, they too get the victory over death. His victory means our victory for those who choose him.

*"You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person*

*someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!"* Romans 5:6-10

It was God's plan to reconcile man back to himself. There is no way that man could attain this on his own. God did not wait for us to become Holy and perfect. God in his gift of love to mankind, sacrificed his son for our sake so that we may be saved and reconciled back to God. Victory!

### **Christ was buried**

*"And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."* Colossians 2:15

Jesus has defeated all the spiritual forces of evil (i.e. Jesus has defeated satan and his demons).

*"The picture, quite familiar in the Roman world, is that of a triumphant general leading a parade of victory. ... To the casual observer the cross appears to be only an instrument of death, the symbol of Christ's defeat; Paul represents it as Christ's chariot of victory."* Vaughan, *The Expositors Bible Commentary, 'Colossians'*.

*"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* Philippians 2:9-11

Every knee will bow before Jesus Christ; even in the spiritual realm including satan and his demons. Victory!

### **Raised on the third day**

*"..and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep."* 1 Corinthians 15:5-6

Jesus appeared to more than 500 people at one time - that is an incredible witness. It is very easy to discount the testimony of 1-2 people and keep it quiet. However, to try and stop the witness of over 500 people saying that Jesus is alive would have been impossible!

*"Jesus said to her, "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. Do you believe this?"* John 11:25

On account of Jesus' victorious resurrection, we have the secure future hope of being resurrected. Victory!

*"And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation." Colossians 1:18-22*

Jesus has the victory! Rejoice in it!