

WHAT DOES THE RESURRECTION MEAN TO YOU?

We are continuing our pastoral series on the resurrection.

- One of the questions Gary asked last week, what does the resurrection mean to you?
- For sure this is an important question to ask ourselves.
 - The resurrection transformed the lifestyles of the disciples to where they became apostles.
 - No longer fishermen in the natural, but all would become fishers of men.
 - It transformed the lives of Jesus' brothers.
 - Until the resurrection, Jesus' brothers didn't believe in the deity of Jesus.
 - ¹⁴ These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with *the* women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. (Acts 1:14 NAS)
 - Afterwards, two of them wrote scriptures. Jude and James
 - James became the Pastor of the church in Jerusalem. He influenced the Jews for the gospel

Q How has the resurrection effected your life?

The gospels will present stories at different times from different angles. Particularly, Matthew, Mark and Luke will draw information from each other and so we call them synoptic gospels.

When all three gospels have an account of the same event, we pay particular attention to it because the Holy Spirit is wanting to emphasize something to us.

One such story takes place in:

Mt.22:23-32 The Sadducees didn't believe in a resurrection

Mk.12:18-27 – vs.24 you don't know scriptures/ or the power of God – vs.27 serious error

Lu.20:27-39 (of Jesus) ...Well said

- The fact that **all three of the synoptic gospels** tell this account demonstrates the importance in the Holy Spirit's mind
- **God wants us to know something about this resurrection.**

You thought evolutionist were the only ones that didn't believe in an afterlife.

Richard Dawkins in a debate with Alister McGrath – “*I find great comfort knowing that I came from a piece of slime, and that I am nothing more than a piece in the evolutionary chain.*”

Story of Lazareth

Jn.11:24 Martha said to Him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." (Jn. 11:24 NAU)

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "**I am** the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, (Jn. 11:25 NAU)

Greek word εἰμι - I exist – I exist as the **resurrection**
I exist as **life**

Notice He doesn't say" I will become the resurrection"

- This is the same term used at the burning bush (septuagint) εἰμι
 - Lu.22:70 (the crowds) are you the son of God? (Jesus) εἰμι
 - For those who are Muslim, this becomes the answer to your quest. Jesus' who you believe to be a key prophet in human history has now pronounced Himself to be deity. The same pronouncement as at the burning bush.
- Resurrection - ἀναστασις -lit. - a raising up
 - Resurrection from the dead, is transitioned into the immortality of the soul
 - **I will become the one who brings you into immortality**
 - Life - δωη - As apposed to bios or biology or the studying of the nature of plants, animals and humans, δωη from the Hebrew mindset represents the compilation of a man's days lived.
 - **I will be the compilation of your days lived**

- In the psalms, **life** becomes relative based on one's relationship with Yahweh
 - **Psalm 63:3** Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, My lips will praise You.

You can't separate the concept of resurrection from the experience of life

- When we allow the Lord to bring death into areas of our life that need to die, then God can bring about a resurrection from those dead areas.
- The resurrection of those dead areas results naturally in a life that is abundant congruent with the sacrifice made

The Sadducees say there is no resurrection; Paul said "If there is no resurrection then we are men most miserable"

- Why most miserable? Because we don't have the life of Jesus available for our resurrection
- Why did the Holy Spirit include the truthfulness of the resurrection in all three synoptic gospels. Because it is central to your life in God.
- This is why **this truth (that of resurrection)** is so demonically attacked by satan.
 - The public school system has been swept away by the lie that there is no resurrection. No afterlife
 - Because resurrection is the entrance into the power of God that connects us to : as Garylee presented it to us, The prepared place for us, both eternally and temporally.

For the Christian the resurrection creates:

- Hope – **Heb.6:19 – We have hope as an anchor for our soul...** rooted in faith for a promise
- Identity- **Rom.6:2-12**
- Unity
- Conviction – Before the resurrection the disciples were followers, after the resurrection the disciples were Apostles.
 - A group of young men broken by the events that overtook them
 - A group of young men that faithfully served God to martyrdom for the sake of building the church.
- Security **Jn.14:2,3 – I go and prepare a place for you**
 - I am your day to day experiences

Hebrews 1:1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
² in these last days has spoken to us in *His Son*, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

³ And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high;
⁴ having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.
⁵ For to which of the angels did He ever say, "Thou art My Son, Today I have begotten Thee"? And again, "I will be a Father to Him And He shall be a Son to Me"? (Heb. 1:1-5 NAS)

Because of resurrection Jesus is called **Son**

- The greatest opportunity that comes to both you and me by virtue of the resurrection is **sonship**
- There is no greater relationship by which we have open access into the fulness of God's provision.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR YOUR FAMILY

Q What is a key resurrection event that has touched your life?

Q. Have you shared your resurrection experience to a non-believer? And what was their reaction?

Q. In anticipation of Easter, do you have resurrection life?