

WHAT THE RESURRECTION MEANS TO US

Acts 13:26-33

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Today the world is celebrating what they call Easter which is only mentioned once in the KJV of the Bible Acts 12:4. This word (pascha) should have been translated "passover" as it is correctly translated in newer versions of Scripture.
- B. The Lord's people do not celebrate this day the way the world and denominations do. We celebrate His death and resurrection on each first day of the week in the manner which He prescribed.
- C. So, with this in mind, let's study about the resurrection.
- D. The resurrection of Christ is the most important event in history of mankind
- E. What is there about the resurrection of Christ that makes it so important to us today?

DISCUSSION:

I. IT SPEAKS OF A LIVING SAVIOR Acts 1:3

- A. The angels said, "Why do you seek the living among the dead?" Lk 24:4-5
- B. The resurrection was the crowning miracle which proved Jesus was the Messiah Rom 1:4
- C. Had the Lord remained in that grave and returned to dust, there would be no hope for deliverance from sin and death
- D. Death could not conquer Jesus Christ Acts 2:23-24
 1. His resurrection was His victory
 2. It was final proof of all that He claimed to be

II. IT TELLS US OF THE POWER OF GOD

- A. Many question the reality of the resurrection and offer flimsy theories
 1. "The swoon theory, went to the wrong tomb, the disciples stole body, and so forth
 2. Actually, they are questioning the power of God, but "is anything too hard for the Lord?" Gen 18:14
- B. God's power is clearly demonstrated in the resurrection Rom 1:4; Eph 1:15-21;
 1. The same power that brought Christ back from the dead is made available for us
 2. Paul prays that we might see the exceeding greatness of the power
 3. Jesus lives by the power of God, and we live with Him through that same power 2Cor 13:4
 4. The God who created all things and raised Jesus will have no problem raising all the dead, whether drowned at sea, cremated, or decayed into dust

III. IT VALIDATES CHRISTIANITY

- A. The foundation of the early Christian movement is Christ crucified, buried, and risen in glorious and matchless power Acts 2:22-32; 13:26-33; 17:18
- B. Paul shows that if Christ is not raised, the whole system falls apart 1Cor 15:13-21
- C. If Christ is not risen, the cornerstone is taken out of the Christian faith and the hopes that men and women have built upon Jesus crumble to the ground
- D. Righteousness or justification is imputed to those who have faith in God who raised Jesus from the dead Rom 4:22-25

IV. IT IS THE FOUNDATION FOR HOPE BEYOND GRAVE

1Cor 6:14; 2Cor 4:14

- A. Lord's resurrection promises resurrection of others 1Cor 15:42-49
 1. Through Him that bodies will be raised Jhn 11:23-25
 2. All in graves will hear His voice and come forth Jhn 5:28-29
- B. When loved ones die and pass into other world, there is hope; and we have same hope of life beyond the grave

V. IT GIVES ASSURANCE OF JUDGMENT Acts 17:30-31

- A. Coming a great day when God will judge all men
- B. God has assured us of it
- C. Just as He raised Christ, He will someday judge all men by Christ John 5:21-22
- D. Through Christ we are delivered from the fear of death and judgment Heb 2:14-15

CONCLUSION:

- A. We begin journey as Christians through the resurrection 1Pet 3:21
- B. We continue our journey through a living hope brought about by the resurrection 1Pet 1:3
- C. The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead needs to continually dwell in us Rom 8:11

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