

Forever Changed

Text: Various

Date: 4-9-23 10:30 AM

I. Obedience (Col. 3:1-4)

What does it mean that Jesus obeyed? Jesus did exactly what the Father commanded. He continually sought and followed His Father's will. And the ultimate obedience came when Christ went to the cross

Christ's obedience directly affected us as His actions on the cross paid fully for our sins, brought forgiveness, and gave us a relationship with our Heavenly Father

Christ learned obedience through the actual experiences of His life, specifically the suffering. As God, Jesus had nothing new to learn, but as the Son of man in human flesh He had to go through what human flesh would go through. He did this so He could minister to us as our High Priest. ". . . as the God-Man in human flesh, He had to learn what was involved in obedience. In this way, He identified with us".¹

Lesson: Through Christ's obedience and His resurrection, we have both the example of obedience and the order to obey.

But Christ's death meant nothing unless He lived again, and He did!

II. Power (Eph. 1:19-20; Phil. 3:10)

The most powerful event that has ever happened on this earth was the resurrection of our Lord and Savior.

Christ defeated man's greatest fear and Satan's greatest weapon against us when He rose from the dead.

To Paul, the Resurrection was not just some past event! It applies to us even today. This means that:

1. Our present life is important as it is in the body that we live for God (I Cor. 6:13).
2. The resurrection is the guarantee for future life.
3. The resurrection is the guarantee that the presence of the Risen Lord is always with us, even to the end of the age (Matt. 28:18-20).

Since all believers have been raised with Christ (Col. 3:1), they all have resurrection power inside of them.

The resurrection has never and will never lose its power.

- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He who was dead is now alive.
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He became the first person to never die again.
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He proved that He was sinless.
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He forever removed any barrier for us to be saved.
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He guaranteed those who believe would be changed from death to life (John 5:24).
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He guaranteed the believer's eternal destiny (I Cor. 15:20-21).
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He defeated the devil and all of his angelic helpers (Col. 2:12-15).

¹ Wiersbe, W. W. (1996). [*The Bible exposition commentary*](#) (Vol. 2, p. 293). Victor Books.

- When Jesus Christ conquered death, the gospel was given life. Without the resurrection the gospel is dead. The gospel is rooted in Christ's victory over death. Our faith is in vain and we are still dead in our sins (I Cor. 15:17). II Tim. 1:10 says, "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He gave the believer the power to overcome death and we have become victorious through Him that loved us (Rom. 8:34, 37).
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He fulfilled prophecy (Psalm 16:10; Isa. 25:8; 53:10; Matt. 17:22-23).
- When Jesus Christ conquered death, He forever changed how God sees those of us who believe. I Pet. 3:18 tells us that the Just Jesus suffered for our sins and that brought us to God. God now sees us as righteous and "we will stand before God robed in Christ's own perfect righteousness." (<https://www.gotquestions.org/Jesus-Christ-conquered-death.html>).

His robes for mine: O wonderful exchange!
 Clothed in my sin, Christ suffered 'neath God's rage.
 Draped in His righteousness, I'm justified.
 In Christ I live, for in my place He died.

Chorus: I cling to Christ, and marvel at the cost:
 Jesus forsaken, God estranged from God.
 Bought by such love, my life is not my own.

My praise—my all—shall be for Christ alone. (<https://www.churchworksmmedia.com/product/his-ropes-for-mine-free/>)

Based on this power within that God has granted to us through the Spirit, we find that everything that we need to live in godliness is contained therein. No enemy is too great for this power. No sin too difficult to overcome with this power. No task too tall to overcome. No sinner too sinful to change.

Resurrection power:

- Gives us the ability to resist/overcome sin and the Devil.
- Gives us the ability to live for God and not ourselves.
- Assures and proves our justification, that God accepted Jesus' sacrifice. (Rom. 4:24-25).
- Raises us up spiritually with Christ, as this identifies us with Christ. This same power that raised Christ up, raises us up from spiritual death now (Eph. 1:19-20).
- Gives us hope for the future resurrection (I Cor. 15).

III. Life (Rom. 6:4)

When we were saved we died with Christ, we were buried with Christ, and we rose again with Him. That action brought us a brand new life.

We have spiritual life, eternal life, and we will one day have a new resurrected physical life.