

# Resurrection: Jesus Christ in the Present Tense

Text: John 11:25

Date: 4-18-21 @ 10:30 AM

The resurrection and life is not just a future hope, it is a present reality that each believer can hold on to in the midst of an ever-changing world. Jesus wanted to make the resurrection more than a distant thought, He wanted His friends to make it a present life-changing truth to live with and live by.

Jesus brings the resurrection from a future fact to a present reality. Even more Jesus takes the resurrection from a certain fulfilled event to a present Person.

Christ's resurrection did more than give physical life, it has given every believer spiritual life.

## I. The Resurrection is a Person!

Life is not just a physical condition or actions of movement and growth. Rather, life is a Person! "Resurrection leads to life, and Jesus is both the resurrection and the life" (Wiersbe).

Since Jesus is the resurrection and the life, He has the power to change lives and also the power to meet every need of the changed life.

### A. Jesus Christ is THE Life (John 14:6).

We find that with Jesus as the life, He is the source and power of the believer's resurrection life.

**How do the resurrection and the life make any difference to you today?**

- You have a guarantee.
- You have hope.
- You can grow to become like Christ.
- Everything that the believer does and will do is a direct result of our life rooted in the living Savior.

### B. To live is Christ (Phil. 1:21).

What we need today is this body of believers living the crucified, resurrected life of Christ before the world.

## II. The Resurrection is a \_\_\_\_\_!

Physical death is only a temporal separation from this frail, human body. When we believed we were changed from being dead in our trespasses and sins to having life in and through the Son of God.

Lazarus' death was no doubt sad, but there was hope for his future. Jesus would prove it by showing to them that Jesus could raise him from the dead. If Jesus could do that now, He certainly could do it in the future. **Jesus was then in effect saying that this life of Jesus was to be lived with the present reality of the resurrection.**

**Live out today what will be a certainty in the future. Live with hope. Live with life. Live with resurrection power. Live with Jesus Christ in the present tense.**

**We should desire to live the life of Jesus Christ in a way that our conduct is becoming of Christ.**

**How so?**

- The habits that you form should be Christ honoring habits.
- Your attitudes toward other people should be humble, compassionate, and loving.
- Your tastes in life should be centered on Christ's Lordship.
- All that you do should be lived to God's glory.
- Your daily responses to God should be praise and joy coupled with fear.
- You should reflect Christ in your thoughts, actions, and motives.

Too many so-called Christians are not living a life rooted in the Lordship of Christ because A) they are not truly saved or B) they have not fully understood the truth of who Christ is.

**As the resurrection and the life, Christ must be the \_\_\_\_\_ of your life which means:**

- You put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh (Rom. 13:14).
- Cleanse yourself from sin (II Cor. 7:1).
- You put off the old man and renew your mind according to the Holy Spirit (Eph. 4:22-23).
- You put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:24).
- You live differently – you quit lying, you put away your anger, do not steal, speak wholesome, edify, get your bitterness right, and be willing to forgive others who have wronged you (Eph. 4:25-32).

**III. The resurrection is the key to \_\_\_\_\_ living!**

The success of this church and the church as a whole is not dependent on man or the world and its methods. Rather, the success of this church, this body, this community, will be rooted in the power of living in the resurrection now.

“The secret of spiritual success is not found in imitating the world's methods but in being incarnated by the Lord and His power through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.” – Warren Wiersbe

### **Conclusion**

What does this all mean? This means that the final chapter on your life is not death. The trials and struggles in our lives, as hard as they may be, are not the end and never will be. We are full of life that is never to be taken away. If you are saved today, you have life, abundant life. This life gets better and better actually! We grow in it. We live in it! We bank on it. Truly, we can say it is a wonderful life. As we grow older, we look forward to the glorious hope that we have as believers.