

The Power of the Resurrection

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. Phil. 3:10; Matt. 28:1-10; 1Cor. 15:3-8
- B. Christianity is the only major religion that serves a living God or prophet.
 - 1. Buddha died and was cremated and his ashes were divided among many stupas or reliquaries
 - 2. Muhammad is buried in the Mosque of the Prophet in Medina in Saudi Arabia at the house of his wife Aisha
 - 3. Abraham is buried in the cave of Machpelah in Ephron - Gen. 25:7-10
- C. The body of Jesus the Christ is not in a tomb
 - 1. Jesus was in a tomb for only three days - Acts 13:37; Luke 24:4-7
 - 2. Death had no power over Jesus because He is Christ the Son of the Living God - John 10:17-18, 2:19-21
 - 3. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead gives Christians hope, confidence, and power.

I. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS PROVES THE POWER OF GOD

- A. God spoke the worlds into existence - Heb. 11:3
 - 1. God formed man from lifeless clay and breathed life into him - Gen. 2:7
 - 2. God gave life to the dead womb of Sarah - Rom. 4:19
 - 3. Is anything too difficult for the Lord? - Gen. 18:14
- B. That same power of God restored life to the body of Jesus after His crucifixion.
 - 1. Eph. 1:18-20; 2Cor. 13:4
 - 2. In this body we are limited by our flesh, but God's power overcomes our flesh and all of its limitations.

II. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS PROVES OUR FAITH IS JUSTIFIED

- A. Christian faith rests entirely on the resurrection; without the resurrection, the rest of the Bible and the Gospel itself is a disjointed collection of sad myths.
 - 1. The first Gospel sermon proclaimed the resurrection - Acts 2:22-24
 - 2. Peter's second sermon proclaimed the resurrection - Acts 3:14-15
 - 3. The apostles proclaimed the resurrection in court - Acts 4:9-10
 - 4. The Apostle Paul emphasized the resurrection - Acts 17:18
- B. Without the resurrection we have no reason to believe, no hope in heaven, and no purpose in this life - 1Cor. 15:14-19

III. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS PROVES OUR SALVATION

- A. The Gospel of salvation proclaims the resurrection - 1Cor. 15:1-4
- B. The resurrection validates our justification - Rom. 4:23-25
- C. We are able to be born again because of the resurrection - 1Peter 1:3
- D. Baptism is our expression of faith in the resurrection of Christ - Rom. 6:3-5

IV. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS PROVES LIFE BEYOND THE GRAVE

- A. Christians are promised life beyond the grave - 1Cor. 6:14; 2Cor. 4:14
- B. Our new life will be unending - John 11:23-26

V. THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS PROVES WE WILL SEE HIM IN JUDGMENT

A. The resurrection proves that there will be a Judgment Day - Acts 17:30-31

B. Judgment is a day the saved anticipate for good reason, and the unsaved dread for good reason.

1. Without the resurrection, the saved would have no hope after this life, and the unsaved would have no reason to fear.

2. John 5:25-29; Matt. 25:31-33

Conclusion:

A. Jesus wants you to be with Him in eternity. He came from heaven, died in our place for our sins, arose from the dead, ascended to the Father, and now intercedes in Heaven, all to make your salvation possible.

B. The resurrection is the key, the crux, the pivot point of eternity for you. What will you do in response?