

Hope Through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Franklin Church of Christ
Mitch Davis
January 30, 2011
AM Worship

Introduction:

- A. One of the most fundamental doctrines of Christianity centers around the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 1. If false, Christianity is a fraud at the very least, and a most destructive heresy.
 2. Because of it, however, the gospel message makes Christianity the *only legitimate religion assuring everlasting life to all who believe in Jesus as the risen Christ.* **Jn. 3:3, 14-15**

Discussion:

- I. Importance of the Resurrection
 - A. This morning we look at:
 1. The importance of the resurrection as seen in Scripture.
 2. The absolute hope it manifests to all who belief in the gospel of Jesus Christ.
 - B. Resurrection believed centuries before Christ:
 1. **Job:** looked forward to seeing God after death. **Job. 19:26; 14:13-14**
 2. **David:** confidence beyond the grave. **Psa. 16:10 (Peter: Acts 2:25-27; Paul: Acts 13:32-35)**
 3. **Daniel:** proclaimed God's faithful people would awake to *everlasting life.* **Dan. 12:2**
 - C. **Jesus Himself taught about the resurrection.**
 1. He rebuked the Sadducees for their ignorance/unbelief regarding the resurrection. **Matt. 22:23-32**
 2. Regarding Judgment Day Jesus spoke emphatically about the resurrection. **Jn. 5:28-29**
 - D. **The fact of the Christ's resurrection is central to the gospel. 1 Cor. 15:1-11**
 1. Evidence (eye-witnesses) for His resurrection was overwhelming. **V. 3-8**
 2. If there is no resurrection then all preaching/believing is vain (profitless) and we're still living in sin. **V. 17**
 3. Worse, if there is no resurrection we are the most pitiful of all men! **V. 19**
- II. Hope Through the Resurrection
 - A. We cheat ourselves (and others) if our faith is limited to simply acknowledging the belief of Christ's resurrection.
 - B. This knowledge/belief should spring hope with every endeavor you do while living here.
 - C. It should relieve you of all fear when people conspire against you.
 - D. It should bring joy in the purpose for which you live in Christ... of which the world could never understand.
 - E. The song: Resurrection (Richard L. Morrison)
 1. **Stanza 1** – *When Jesus stood at Lazarus' tomb and none believed He had the pow'r...Despite their grief and their disbelief, He commanded, "Take away the stone."*
 2. **Stanza 2** – *When Jesus lay in Joseph's tomb and none believed He had the pow'r... True love spoke forth in a Father's voice, And the angel took away the stone.*
 3. **Stanza 3** – *When I shall lie with in my tomb and none believe He has the pow'r, The Lord Himself will descend from heav'n with a shout to take away the stone.*

Conclusion:

- A. The resurrection of Jesus Christ should be the center of your faith, hope, and life in Christ.
- B. May it bring you great joy, comfort, and confidence every time we sing about our resurrected Lord.