

# RESURRECTION SUNDAY

March 31, 2024

## “God Raised Him on the Third Day”

**Introduction:** “Tombs with life, tombs that give voice...” —John Chrysostom (AD 4th C.)

“In the ancient church, the message of Christ’s triumph over death produced some peculiar attitudes towards the dead. Believers would assemble for prayer in tombs. They would worship Christ among the bones of the dead. Believers would raise the bodies of martyrs in the air and parade them through the streets like trophies. At funerals they would gaze lovingly on the dead and sing psalms of praise over their bodies. Such behavior shocked their pagan neighbors.” —Ben Meyers, *The Apostles’ Creed*

John 5:28-29—<sup>28</sup> Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice <sup>29</sup> and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

### Acts 10:34-43

#### Background

Having been the first to proclaim the gospel to Jews, the apostle Peter is also highlighted by the author of Acts (Luke) as preaching Christ to the first prominent Gentile convert. The Lord had spoken to a God-fearing centurion, Cornelius, telling him to send to Joppa for Peter. Peter had also been given a vision which helped him to understand that the barrier between Jew and Gentile was broken down in Christ who makes all of His people clean.

#### 1. Peter explained that all that God had done through Jesus was a continuation of the OT storyline.

Acts 10:36—As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)...

⇒ Jesus is the promised \_\_\_\_\_ that the OT anticipated.

⇒ He is the \_\_\_\_\_ who would bring about the promised peace of God.

**Key Point:** The message of the Gospel is centered on \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus was and \_\_\_\_\_ He had come to do.

#### 2. Peter then recounted key aspects of Jesus’ earthly ministry

Acts 10:37-38—<sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

⇒ His public ministry began with His \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ His public ministry included the overcoming of both natural and supernatural \_\_\_\_\_.

**Key Point:** The Lord Jesus is utterly \_\_\_\_\_ among all those who had been set apart as God’s servants.

#### 3. Peter then described the culmination of Jesus’ earthly ministry in His death and resurrection.

Acts 10:39—And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree

⇒ His death was in the \_\_\_\_\_ of all who were under the curse of the Law.

Acts 10:40-42—<sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead.

⇒ That Jesus was resurrected was affirmed by eyewitness \_\_\_\_\_.

⇒ Before His ascension, the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ His people to continue on as His witnesses.

**Key Point:** The words and lives of Jesus' followers bear witness to the fact that He is not just the one to whom all history points, He is the one that will bring history to its intended \_\_\_\_\_.

**4. Peter concluded by saying that Jesus had done all these things in fulfillment of what the prophets had predicted.**

Acts 10:43—To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

⇒ God had promised how He would accomplish \_\_\_\_\_ for mankind and then done so in exactly that way through Jesus.

**Key Point:** It is Scripture that \_\_\_\_\_ us that salvation can be received through Christ.

### Concluding Thoughts

**1. Salvation is offered in the name of the Lord Jesus, but in His name \_\_\_\_\_!**

John 14:6—Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

**2. Because Jesus has been resurrected, we live with \_\_\_\_\_ that we too will be resurrected!**

1 Cor. 15:44-49—<sup>44</sup> It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. <sup>45</sup> Thus it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. <sup>46</sup> But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the spiritual. <sup>47</sup> The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. <sup>48</sup> As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. <sup>49</sup> Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

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Acts 10:36—As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all)...

- ⇒ Jesus is the promised Savior that the OT anticipated.
- ⇒ He is the Messiah who would bring about the promised peace of God.

**Key Point:** The message of the Gospel is centered on Who Jesus was and What He had come to do.

#### 2. Peter then recounted key aspects of Jesus’ earthly ministry

Acts 10:37-38—<sup>37</sup> you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

- ⇒ His public ministry began with His baptism.
- ⇒ His public ministry included the overcoming of both natural and supernatural evil.

**Key Point:** The Lord Jesus is utterly unique among all those who had been set apart as God’s servants.

#### 3. Peter then described the culmination of Jesus’ earthly ministry in His death and resurrection.

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⇒ That Jesus was resurrected was affirmed by eyewitness testimony.

⇒ Before His ascension, the Lord commissioned His people to continue on as His witnesses.

**Key Point:** The words and lives of Jesus' followers bear witness to the fact that He is not just the one to whom all history points, He is the one that will bring history to its intended goal.

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**Key Point:** It Scripture that assures us that salvation can be received through Christ.

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John 14:6—Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

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