

38 Jesus Is Resurrected

Chapter Luke 24, 1 Corinthians 15

Today's Lesson:



1. To understand that the resurrection of Jesus Christ gives us assurance that Jesus is the Son of God and our Savior.

2. To understand that the resurrection of Jesus Christ guarantees the resurrection of our body and gives us the hope to abound in the work of the Lord.

Open Your Heart



In Rome, there are historic sites called 'the Catacombs', which are underground cemeteries that were constructed by the ancient Romans. Many Christians, who suffered from the worsening persecutions during the era of the early churches, escaped to these catacombs to worship God. The Catacombs are like a very complicated maze that span over a distance of 546 miles. This place is so enormous that many people who go in without a guide spend the rest of their lives underground because they are unable to find an exit. Early Christians lived in places like the Catacombs for nearly 250 years in order to avoid oppression and persecution so that they could keep their faith in Jesus. When a Christian passed away in this place, they dug into the wall and placed the corpse inside the wall. There was even a saying 'Christians are born in the Catacombs, live in the Catacombs, and die in the Catacombs.' What caused them to keep their faith despite losing all of their honor, position, wealth, and even their lives? Where did their strength, which even death could not break, come from?



Understanding Today's Lesson

Three days had passed since Jesus died on the cross and was buried. Early that morning, Mary Magdalene and a few women had come to the tomb of Jesus, where they found that the stone guarding the tomb was rolled away from the entryway. When they took a look inside the tomb, the tomb was empty and the body of Jesus was nowhere to be found: Jesus was resurrected, as He said He would. After Jesus was resurrected from among the dead, the first person that He revealed Himself to was Mary Magdalene. Afterward, Jesus visited the other women and the two disciples heading to Emmaus. Jesus also went to Peter and the other disciples, along with more than five hundred of the brethren at the same time. Jesus would later visit James and Apostle Paul. After Jesus was resurrected, He showed himself to His disciples for 40 days and preached about the work regarding the kingdom of God. Finally, in the midst of His disciples on the Mount of Olives, Jesus ascended to heaven, promising that He would one day return again.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ holds many important meanings. First, the resurrection proves the fact that Jesus had died for our sins. Second, the resurrection of Jesus declares that we have become righteous in front of God. Third, the resurrection proclaims to the world that the power of sin and death has been completely broken. Fourth, the resurrection is the promise that when Jesus returns, Christians will be transformed into a glorious form like Jesus.

Therefore, one can say that faith in the resurrection is the core of Christianity.

Notes:



Memorizing Bible Verses

But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

(1 Corinthians 15:20)



Meditate

On These Verses

1. After you have meditated on the following verses, give a title of the verse or write a short summary of the verse. Also, write down things you have felt about the verse, or other verses that it has reminded you of.

(Luke 24:30–34)

(1 Corinthians 15:12–22)

(Acts 17:30–34)



Changing

Directions

1. How can we be certain that the resurrection of Jesus is a historical fact? Use evidence from the Bible to explain.

2. Along with the resurrection of Christ, the Bible states that when Jesus returns, Christians will have a transformed body like Jesus. What will our transformed bodies be like? Let us think about this in reflection to the Bible.

3. In the past, the hope in the resurrection strengthened numerous Christians in hardship with indescribable comfort, hope, strength, and courage. What kind of impact does the hope of resurrection have in my life currently?



Applying

The Word to My Life

For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.
(James 2:26)

1. Please write down how you will apply what you learned today throughout this week.

1.)

2.)

3.)

2. Look back and reflect on how successful you were at applying last week's lesson.



Praying

To Live According to the Word

Jesus came into the world according to the Scriptures, died according to the Scriptures, and was resurrected in three days according to the Scriptures. He has now become the Hope of my life. Having the hope of resurrection, I sincerely pray that I can live the rest of my life with strength.



Our Story

Hid Under the Terebinth Tree



So they have Jacob all the foreign gods which were in their hands, and the earrings which were in their ears; and Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree which was by Shechem. (Genesis 35:4)

The Dragonfly and the Larva

There once was a dragonfly who was hovering over a pond and repeatedly flying up to the sky. Each time that the dragonfly flew up the sky, it would come back down and look at the water. A nearby bush cricket on the edge of the pond saw the dragonfly and asked,

"What's over there? You keep hovering over the pond. If you lost something, let me know, so I can help you find it."

"I appreciate your concerns, but it is impossible for you to help me because you live on the ground. If you would like to know, I am flying all over the place to show my brothers in the pond that I can fly!"

"Oh, then did you also come out from the pond?"

"Yes! I came out yesterday. When I was inside the pond, I never knew that such huge skies and vast lands existed."

"Do you ever want to go back to the pond?"

"No, I never want to return to that filthy and smelly pond. Actually, there were brothers that I lived with, and what the eldest brother said to me came to be true. He always told me, 'our lives are not done in this small and dirty place, but when the time comes, we will fly to the sky. We will be free then!' However, my other brothers did not trust him and ignored his words. They said our eldest brother was dreaming, but now, just like what my eldest brother said, I am able to fly to the sky! I want to show this to my brothers. I want to let them know that the words of our eldest brother were all true!"

Even through this story of the dragonfly and the larva, God plants the hope in us that Christians will be transformed on the day our Lord returns.

Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. (1 Corinthians 15:51–52)

