

## He Is Risen!

Why is the Resurrection So Important?

Luke 24:1-12; Matthew 28

**I. The Resurrection of Jesus is one of the greatest foundational stones of the Christian religion. In practical importance, it's second only to the crucifixion. Why??**

- a. The Resurrection was the litmus test that verified the Crucifixion and all that it was supposed to do! I.e., It was the final \_\_\_\_\_ statement for everything Jesus said and did- which our entire faith rests upon. Q- What would happen to our faith if someone proved that Jesus did not rise from the dead??
- b. Ans. - **1 Cor. 15:12-19** I.e., this would mean that our sins are not \_\_\_\_\_ and we are still needing saving. That the whole thing is a sham and that our faith was \_\_\_\_\_

**II. However, the text given here seems to cry of the idea of "\_\_\_\_\_ " to the fact that Jesus indeed rose from death and came back to life.** Here's the evidence that our Bible characters ran straight into themselves:

- a. On Friday morning, His body was confirmed dead (**John 19:31-34- w/ med. report**), safe in the tomb- guarded by Roman soldiers, and on Sunday morning, the tomb was found empty and Jesus was \_\_\_\_\_. (**Matt. 28:1-4**)
- b. Who could have possibly taken the body?
  - i. The soldiers would have been punished by \_\_\_\_\_ so it wasn't them (**Matt. 28:11-15**)
  - ii. Not the priests and scribes, nor Jesus' many enemies. If they had had the body to prove Jesus did not rise again, they would have \_\_\_\_\_ to prove that and would have surely shown it! After-all, did they want to be guilty of actually killing God and proving Jesus' follower right?

- iii. Not the apostles nor His disciples, as they were far too \_\_\_\_\_ of such a bold move. They were also quite dis-heartened and were still under Jesus' orders, to expect Him to rise on the 3rd day (**Matt. 17:22-23**)
- iv. Jesus Himself appeared to and \_\_\_\_\_ with them!
- v. Thomas Personally felt the scars in Jesus' hands and side... His response, "**My Lord and My God**". (**John 20:24-29**)

c. Paul gives more "eye-witness" evidence to the Resurrection- (**1 Cor. 15:1-8**)

**III. What does this mean for me, or for anyone considering Jesus?**

- a. We need to know that all that Jesus said about our spiritual condition, eternal punishment, eternal life, and our need for Jesus' death on the cross, was and is \_\_\_\_\_! That it's all true!
- b. We need to confirm that the enemy's attempt to get us to \_\_\_\_\_ God's Word is not something we are to entertain, ever, as believers (**Gen. 3:1**). *Pastor quote...*
- c. We need to know that Jesus did not \_\_\_\_\_ when He said He would rise again, nor in the rest of scripture.
- d. We need to know that:
  - i. We are not still "dead (or stuck) in our \_\_\_\_\_"
  - ii. That our eternal hope of heaven is not in \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii. That we can indeed have God-wrought purpose in \_\_\_\_\_ with everything we go through.
  - iv. That we can have a true, living relationship with the Lord.
  - v. That our prayers are heard and that God \_\_\_\_\_ answer and take care of His children.
  - vi. We have all of this confirmed because He \_\_\_\_\_ Risen!