

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the one element that makes Christianity not only superior to every other religion, but totally different from every other religion. Someone has rightly said, "Christianity begins where other religions end: with the resurrection of Jesus Christ." every other religion of the world can point to a founding father, and they can even point to his grave. Which means they are still powerless over death....Death still has the final say....But only Christianity points to an empty tomb and says the Good news is, "our founder is alive." Therefore we live also...we get our bodies back for that is what the resurrection means So in reporting this Good News...lets clarify the term Resurrection... (Tim please put this on the screen)

The word Resurrection is a noun Is a noun; Resurrection means to restore life to it's former condition and existence...which means to Rise from physical death to physical life...to be revived ..which means to Rise from the dead...to bring what was dead to life!

Tim please put this on the screen:

So "Resurrection means a return to a physical body in a physical universe on a physical earth.

However, Jesus resurrection takes it a step further His resurrection means-an eternal future for fully restored human beings dwelling on a fully restored earth in a fully restored universe connected to a fully united heaven- or there is no good news about Christianity... that is great power...to not only restore humanity but all creation

- **It is the most important doctrine and event of the Christian Faith, for every other doctrine only has value if we live again after we die in bodily form..**
- **Jesus did not just die to remove our sins; if He merely died, then death has the last word.**
- **Without the resurrection, the Christian religion comes tumbling down — like taking the bottom piece out of jenga.**

It is Jesus great love for us that he overcame the power of sin by dying for us andit is the great power of his love that has made us alive ... removing our curse of death

Eph 2:4 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

- **How? By The physical resurrection of Jesus Christ life overcame death...Scripture indicates that God designed our bodies to be an integral part of our total being. Our physical bodies are an essential aspect of who we are, not just shells for our spirits to inhabit ...**

Genesis 2:7 the LORD God *formed* the man from the dust of the ground and *breathed* into his nostrils the breath of life (spirit), and the man became a living being.

- **Death is an abnormal condition because it tears apart what God created and joined together ...not only human beings but all God's creation**

Listen to what The Apostle Paul says...

1 Corinthians 15:14 *And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.*

- **Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a restoration that he will complete upon his return. Part of this will be the resurrection of all the dead, who will "awake," be embodied and participate in the renewal**

1 Corinthians 15:17 *And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. 19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

And he finishes this proposition with...

1 Corinthians 15:32 *.....If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die."*

- **if the resurrection is not true...death is final...do what you want until we die!**
- **Jesus did not just die to wash us clean from our sins...he removed the consequence of our sins...death.**
- **If Jesus did not resurrect...What we preach is useless... has absolutely no value... this life heaven or hell even has no value...**
- **If Jesus did not resurrect...Our Faith is useless... it is worth absolutely nothing it is futile...there is no point to our faith...**
- **If Jesus did not resurrect...We are false witnesses about God...we are liars and should not be believed in anything pertaining to God...**
- **and Christianity is the meanest cruelest HOAX— it is a lie and sadistic.**
- **If Jesus did not resurrect...we just sang to a dead man, we pray to a dead man, I foolishly preach about a dead man, we worship a powerless dead man, we put trust in a dead man! We would truly be the most foolish of all!!**

Death is the fundamental human problem, we have no power to stop it...and just a little power to delay it sometimes....

"BUT," as Paul simply says here...

1CO 15:20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

- **His resurrection is directly connected to us, he is the first fruit of the resurrection....we are the following fruit.**
- **His resurrection body is similar to what our resurrection body will be like.**

- **The teaching of the Church maintains that wholeness of the human being is defined by the resurrection and nothing less.**

The promise that one day we shall have physical bodies “like his glorious body”

1. **Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a restoration that he will complete upon his return.** Part of this will be the resurrection of all the dead, who will "awake," be embodied and participate in the renewal of all things

John tells us we will be like him...and them also

1JN 3: 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Paul speaks of it like this...

Philippians 3:21 who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

1CO 15: 42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; 43 it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; 44 it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

- **our bodies will be die as perishable...and be resurrected imperishable...their will be continuity...**
- **the dishonor of the body is its death...that is its weakness**
- **its glory is that it will be raised in power!**
- **it is sown of the earth natural... it is raised spiritual body....Supernatural!**

And Paul tells us something else...He expounds on the depth of Resurrection...it includes all of God's creation...Just as all creation was effected by the fall of man...the redemption effects all of creation...

Romans 8:21 the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God. Romans 8:22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

- **Damaged creation cries out to be repaired... His plan to repair it. He is going to remodel the old earth on a grand scale...**
- **What is the glory?? We will live again,we will resurrect with new bodies...the earth will be renewed and rebirthed..!! the new life is waiting to be born...**

Romans 8:23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly *as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.*

24 For in this hope we were saved

- **the our adoption is completed with the redemption of our bodies!**
- **Jesus disciples did not understand this...and following this death..**
- **Jesus knew this revelation was too much for them to comprehend...and the night before he died... told them they would not understand...**

John 13:7 Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

John 16:12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear

- **These disciples were setting the example for all those who have followed Jesus since... we don't realize the whole picture of what God is doing now!**
- **It is revealed a little by little....there is much more going on than we can now bear!....but later we will understand....**
- **They believed Jesus to be the expectant messiah... But Now he is dead...they don't understand...death had to be conquered...**

lets pick up part of the story of his disciples...because it is our story also..... a few of the women were going to go back to the tomb, none of the disciples believed Jesus would rise from the dead literally...so they were going to do the proper Jewish burial procedures...at least give him a proper burial.

- 1. ...At least we can anoint Jesus and say we love you...and good bye and delay body decomposition...we are still powerless...**

LK 24:1 *On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb.*

- **The women came to the tomb very early, before it was light outside ...The women were NOT looking for a resurrected man, but for a DEAD man.**
- **We can believe and love Jesus ...just like these ladies did And still believe that Jesus cannot do what he said he would ...**

They found something else

² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴ While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. ⁵ In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead?" ⁶ **He is not here; he has risen!** Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ⁷ 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " ⁸ Then they remembered his words.

- **The Key to faith is remembering the words of Jesus ...when circumstances say contradict it!**

But they weren't the only ones...

LK 24:9 When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. ¹⁰ It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the *apostles*. ¹¹ **But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.**

- **The apostles...the A TEAM...thought it was nonsense that Jesus could actually be alive live after dying**
- **He told them he was going to rise numerous times...but they could not get their minds off of their lives and expectations, concerns, and disappointments of this current life...**
- **We often have the same problem...our spiritual understanding is filtered though our current circumstances...instead of our current circumstances filtered through the words of Jesus!!**
- **This life is passing... resurrected life is forever!!! Not the other way around!!**

So we pick up the narrative their response to the women ...

JN 20: 3 So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter, who was behind him, arrived and went into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the burial cloth that had been around Jesus' head. The cloth was folded up by itself, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed. ⁹ **(They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)**

- 1. John being a son of thunder and competitive...wants us to know two things...one he can beat peter in a foot race...and two he believed Jesus rose before peter did..**
- 2. John apparently believed Jesus rose though he did not understand...it**
- 3. But they all did not understand!**
- 4. But they would...**

For those of us like the women and the Apostles who believe but don't understand... Jesus has not given up on you and will accomplish all that he said! after everyone leaves.... Mary Magdalene hung out

John 20:11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb ¹² and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. ¹³ They asked her, "Woman, why are you crying?" "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I don't know where they have put him." ¹⁴ At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was

Jesus. ¹⁵ He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?” Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

- **Mary is CRYING; I mean SOBBING. Not everyone responds to grief and loss the same...the rest went home...she could not pull herself away**
- **Mary was standing outside the tomb in the garden when she first viewed Jesus. In this setting, she would expect to see a gardener rather than Jesus.**
- **Mary turned away from Jesus. She must have turned away quickly and stayed turned from Him for most of the contact and conversation, because the Scripture tells us that she turns BACK toward Him when He mentions her name.**

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.” She turned toward him and cried out in Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

She called Him Rabboni...the I means personal...he was now her personal master because she saw him alive...

¹⁷ Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’”⁸ Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.

- **The one she thought was dead...He is alive...there is a life after death... When Mary grabs him she sees him, she is not letting go this time..... But he must go to heaven...*that is his home for now but his seat of power forever...***

key part....going to my Father and that is where he is alive and right now...this is for us

Hebrews 10:¹² But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. ¹⁴ For by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

- **He came from the heavenlies, (I am returning) from the visible to the invisible, Jesus was God...death could not hold him...he came to free us from it... that which could hold us..**
- **And he was going to go back He see’s his and her God and Father... to reign in power over all things**
- **He waits for them to be made lower than him....which means as they try to assert their power he puts them down...**
- **And he perfects matures us in walking in that power...**
- **But we need to be enlightened in this resurrection power.....**

- **And he waits to enlighten (reveal) to Gods people the power they have in Christ! That we may walk in that power on earth.**

Eph 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

- **Every name invoked which means every thing anyone which can be named (ie invoked) is lower than Jesus in authority and power...**
- **All things are placed below him...so by our relationship to him they are below us too!**

²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

- **Therefore at the name of Jesus every being will bow...**

Phil 2:10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- ***That is the power of the resurrection..... Walk in the power of the name of Jesus...the Resurrected King of all Creation***

Gal 4:6 Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba,^[a] Father."⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

That mere man is now a joint Heir with Christ of all that is Gods'

- ***Walk in the power of the name of Jesus...the Resurrected King of all Creation...***

End

- *As the first two chapter of Genesis describe creation the last two chapter of Revelation describe recreation...*

*Revelation 21: 1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the **first** heaven and the **first** earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2 I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.*

- **The word “first” suggest a vital connection between the first heaven and the first earth...**
- **The first serves as the prototype or pattern of the second...there is continuity between old and new ...**
- **We should expect new trees, new flowers, new rocks, new rivers, new mountains and new animals...but there will be familiarity and connection to the old....**
- **Just as when you buy a new car...it is still a car and has familiarity to the old car...**

*3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “**Now** the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” 5 He who was seated on the throne said, “**I am making everything new!**” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” end*

end

The Resurrection of the Dead

¹ Cor 15:12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷



What stone does he need to roll away so that what has died can be resurrected..in your life...

Jesus brings life to death

And light into darkness

He can mend the broken hearted..

He resurrects Hope in the hopeless

And gives resurrection Strength to the weary

He is a father to the fatherless

And provides a home for the outcast

Brings Peace to the restless

He resurrects Joy in the downcast

Gives Rest to the weary

Offers Freedom to the captive

Release to those in bondage

To the broken He heals

The lost He rescues

Washes clean the sin soaked

So

1. Lets repent of our unbelief that anything dead in us cant be overcome and new life resurrected
2. Ask Jesus to bring life in those dead place in us!!

dead things...things that need to experience resurrection....

Eph 1:18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

That power is at work in each of us right now!!! He can resurrect anything that has died...

We have resurrection power...

end

That is what eternal life will look like.....

John 3: 16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

- **Eternal life looks like this ...we will be physically bodily resurrected living on a physical recreated earth as we were originally designed ...living with God completely restored spiritually... and you know what...you are included in this if you are in Him**
- **It will all be new yet familiar ...the what we love about this earth...but new and better!!!**
- **Thank God for the Resurrection to come!!**

Paul prayed the same thing for us...we believe ...but if were honest there are graves in our hearts that hold dead dreams...dead hopes...graves in our hearts where we have buried disappointments with tombstones which bear the names of those who have deeply hurt us and we think we will never get past it...and sometimes even God name is on it..... But let me tell you...

He has resurrection power in the here and now...

and Peter 30 years later when he pens his last letter to the churches he could have wrote about any of his many, many experiences with Jesus on earth but he recalls not one event during that time with Jesus except one...

2PE 1: 13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, ¹⁴ because I know that I will soon put it aside, as our Lord Jesus Christ has made clear to me. ¹⁵ And I will make every effort to see that after my departure you will always be able to remember these things. *2PE 1:16* We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." ¹⁸ *We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.*

- **Peter is recalling this event which took place over thirty years ago...**

LK 9:28 About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. ²⁹ As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. ³⁰ *Two men, Moses and Elijah, ³¹ appeared in glorious splendor, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem.*

- **Of all the events to personally share in your last correspondence...this is what he recalls as being most impactful...**
- **he recalls seeing Jesus in his heavenly majesty but not only him...**

- Moses and Elijah...they were alive in glorious splendor too!!...though they had lived hundreds of years earlier...
- They spoke about his departure...The Resurrection

*But there is more...Moses and Elijah had glorious bodies also...
They somehow were existing as human beings but with a glorious nature also*

Scripture indicates that God designed our bodies to be an integral part of our total being. Our physical bodies are an essential aspect of who we are, not just shells for our spirits to inhabit ...

Genesis 2:7** the LORD God **formed** the man from the dust of the ground **and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life (spirit), and the man became a living being.

- Death is an abnormal condition because it tears apart what God created and joined together ...not only human beings but all God's creation

*Romans 8:21 the creation itself will be **liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.***

- This damaged creation cries out to be repaired...and it is His plan to repair it. He is going to remodel the old earth on a grand scale...
- What is the glory?? We will live again...we will resurrect with new bodies...the earth will be renewed and rebirthed..!!

*Romans 8:22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. 23 Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly **as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.** 24 For in this hope we were saved.*

The crucifixion led to death; Jesus really died and was buried. First century tombs had space for about three bodies. Joseph of Arimathea laid Jesus' body in a new tomb so His body was the first one laid. Jesus was really dead, and then He really rose again. When I say Jesus rose from the dead, I mean He was resurrected, not just resuscitated. A resuscitation would be Jesus waking up, unwrapping His grave clothes, and walking out of the tomb. But that is not what happened. He passed through His grave clothes. His body did not simply come back to life, but was changed. In the Gospel of Luke the resurrected Jesus can eat and be touched; He had a real body but it was different. People did not recognize Him right away. He was physical and walked around, but He could pass through walls.

The resurrection reveals far more of the person and work of Christ than many people realize. And the raising of the body means the restoring of the person—not just part of me, but all of me—to active, creative, undying life, for God and with God.

New Body

In raising believers, God completes their redemption by the gift, not of their old bodies somehow patched up, but of new bodies fit for new men. Through regeneration and sanctification God has already renewed us inwardly; now we receive bodies to match. The new body is linked with the old, yet different from it, just as plants are linked with, yet different from, the seeds from which they grew (see [1 Corinthians 15:35–44](#)).

The disciples and Historians are very clear about two things about Jesus — He existed, and He was crucified. There are no serious thinkers who doubt those two facts. Indeed, the whole structure of history comes tumbling down if you claim that they are not true for there are no events of history that are better attested to than those. If we cannot be sure Jesus lived and died, then we cannot be sure of any event in history.

Paul tells us we will be with Jesus ...

*Eph 2: 6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the **heavenly** realms in Christ Jesus,*

*1CO 15:35 But someone may ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?" ³⁶ How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has determined, and to each kind of seed he gives its own body. ³⁹ All flesh is not the same: Men have one kind of flesh, animals have another, birds another and fish another. ⁴⁰ There are also **heavenly** bodies and there are earthly bodies; but the splendor of the **heavenly** bodies is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another. ⁴¹ The sun has one kind of splendor, the moon another and the stars another; and star differs from star in splendor.*

1CO 15:42 So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is

sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

So what to do in the meantime?

2CO 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. ¹⁸ So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is **temporary**, but what is unseen is eternal.

2CO 5:1 Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

2CO 5:6 Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. ⁷ We live by faith, not by sight.
and Jesus himself tells us..

JN 14:1 "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. ² In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I am** going there to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where **I am**."

Point 2...Jesus is God...He is the Iam the ever present God

The same God who was with them is with us...

- **God manifested himself to Peter because he intends to manifest himself through Peter**
- **God manifests himself to you because he intends to manifest himself through you**

MT 28: 18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. **And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**

- **were meant to be people of the resurrection**

In Revelation ...Jesus says Yes...I am coming soon...I am here now

He is the present God... **What is it you need? ... Jesus says I am... are you depressed?....I am your counselor**

are you Afraid? ...I am your protector.... are you trapped?...I am your deliver

are you Lonely?...I am your friend... are you Sick?...I am your healer Are You unrighteous? ...Jesus says I am your righteousness Are you imperfect?...I am your perfection

are you weak?...I am your strength.... are you Lost?...I am your guide

are you Proud ?...I am your humbler...are you Poor?...I am your provider

are you a Sinner ?...I am your Savior do you need God? ...I am here

I am your all in all...I am the risen and present God

I have come to the end of what I want to say to you, but let me give Jesus an opportunity to speak. This is what he once said, and I believe He would say to us today:

JN 11:25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; ²⁶ and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

*JN 11:27 "Yes, Lord," she told him, "I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world."
do you believe?*

end

Jesus was alive before Moses and Elijah...he was alive now ...and he is alive after he ascended...he is alive always...

which means he is present...he is always present...he was present when Moses saw the burning bush...and asked what is his name...

Exodus 3:6 Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

- The God in the burning bush is the God of Moses' forefathers, the God of the patriarchs, Israel's God.
- He is the God who made a covenant with Abraham and reiterated it to Isaac and Jacob.

It is not a new and different God who is here made known to Moses,⁷³ but the God of his forefathers, the God of Israel.

EX 3:13 Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

➤ **They are in Egypt ...exposed to many gods...which one shall I say you are?**

EX 3:14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' "

➤ **I am ...the present one...the one always present...and never not present...**

EX 3:15 God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers--the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob--has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.

➤ **The God who is and was and will always be...**

This is who Jesus claimed to be and and what put him in trouble with the Jews

John 8: 51 I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death."

JN 8:52 At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. ⁵³ Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"

JN 8:54 Jesus replied, "If I glorify myself, my glory means nothing. My Father, whom you claim as your God, is the one who glorifies me. ⁵⁵ Though you do not know him, I know him. If I said I did not, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and keep his word. ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced at the thought of seeing my day; he saw it and was glad."

JN 8:57 "You are not yet fifty years old," the Jews said to him, "and you have seen Abraham!"

*JN 8:58 "I tell you the truth," Jesus answered, "**before Abraham was born, I am!**"*

JN 8: 38 I am telling you what I have seen in the Father's presence, and you do what you have heard from your father. "

JN 8:39 "Abraham is our father," they answered.

"If you were Abraham's children," said Jesus, "then you would do the things Abraham did. ⁴⁰ As it is, you are determined to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. Abraham did not do such things. ⁴¹ You are doing the things your own father does."

"We are not illegitimate children," they protested. "The only Father we have is God himself."

JN 8:42 Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and now am here. I have not come on my own; but he sent me. ⁴³ Why is my language not clear to you? Because you are unable to hear what I say. ⁴⁴ You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. ⁴⁵ Yet because I tell the truth, you do not believe me! ⁴⁶ Can any of you prove me guilty of sin? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? ⁴⁷ He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God."

JN 8:48 The Jews answered him, "Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"

JN 8:49 "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰ I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge

Peter told Jesus the night he was betrayed that he was ready to face death of prison for Jesus ... **He had great faith in his own estimation of his loyalty to Jesus ...but when he was called on his loyalty.. his loyalty was to earthly living...**

*LK 22:31 "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. ³² But **I have prayed** for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."*

- **and the same with the other apostles...who all fled in fear...**

LK 22:33 But he replied, "Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death." ^{LK 22:34} Jesus answered, "I tell you, Peter, before the rooster crows today, you will deny three times that you know me."

➤ **He would fail...but his faith would prevail...**

➤ **He would deny Jesus and run away...but when he stopped running away...his faith would bring him back to Jesus...how?**

➤ **You know what great faith is? Great Faith is knowing that Jesus loves you in spite of your failures...that is great faith...**

➤ **And then he would bring back his other brothers who also ran away...**

Jesus said to his disciples, earlier that night...

*JN 16:12 "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now **bear**.*

Our learning appears to be incremental.

^{2KI 2:11} As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a **chariot of fire** and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

to present himself to the Father the perfect sacrifice...the perfect amends...

*HEB 9: 12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; **but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.***

HEB 9:24 For Christ did not enter a man-made sanctuary that was only a copy of the true one; he entered heaven itself, now to appear for us in God's presence. ²⁵ Nor did he enter heaven to offer himself again and again, the way the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood that is not his own. ²⁶ Then Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But now he has appeared once for all

at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, ²⁸ *so Christ was sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to bring salvation to those who are waiting for him.*

- **He did not just die for my sins; He rose for my life. When He rose, I rose in Him**

But not only did he do that then ... He is doing this right now:

*HEB 10: 12 But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God. ¹³ Since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool, ¹⁴ because by one sacrifice he has **made perfect forever** those who are being **made holy**.*

- Sitting at the right hand of God
- Defeating His enemies
- His sacrifice made all who believe spiritually perfect
- While he is making them holy while they live here

So we can come to Him with confidence..

*HEB 4:16 Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive **mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need**.*

And because he lives forever...he can save completely because he always intercedes for us...

*HEB 7: 24 **but because Jesus lives forever**, he has a permanent priesthood. ²⁵ Therefore **he is able to save completely** those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them.*

*******but something else happened that resurrection day... a third instruction...**

*MT 28:5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷ Then go quickly and tell his disciples: **'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee.** There you will see him.' Now I have told you."*

*MT 28:8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹ Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰ **Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."***

- they are told by an angel and Jesus to tell the apostles to go to the mountain in Galilee

What mountain?

MK 3:13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. ¹⁴ He appointed twelve--designating them apostles--that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and to have authority to drive out demons. ¹⁶ These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷ James son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸ Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

Why?

- so they are recommissioned...on the night of Jesus arrest the apostles and disciples were scattered and confused and scared for their lives...
- Their unity shattered and their commission appeared revoked...the apostolic was initiated....circle was broken and their commission needed to be restored...
- They needed further instruction...they needed to be brought back to their roots...to the mountain where their call...

where in Galilee?

*MT 28:16 **Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.** ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

Nothing has changed that day for the followers of Jesus...the call is still in effect...he is still with them...

- **First, the eleven disciples go to Galilee**, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. As they see Him, some hesitate. they doubt... Why?
- It is not because they are unsure whether it is Jesus or not, but rather because they are not quite sure what to do now. So they pause.
- It is the same word that is used in Matthew 14:31 when Peter hesitated before He walked on water. It was not that they had no faith; it was that they had little faith.
- **The issue here is not wondering if they should believe in Jesus or not, but if they can finish the journey.**

Second Jesus says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me."

- He never lacked authority, but now it has been enlarged. It is as big as the universe and is no longer confined to a ministry to Israel.
- He is king of heaven and earth and is now going to be served by His disciples.

- Jesus comes to the heart of the commission. Some people think that the greatest thing a Christian can do is to witness, to evangelize, to convert someone.
- But Jesus says it is to make disciples, which means to take people to the point that they love the Lord with all their heart and strength and can teach others about that too.
- It involves being God's instrument in bringing that person to faith, then to maturity, then to the point they can lead others to Christ, who will in turn lead others to Christ

Third Jesus says his power and presence will be with them their failure to believe what he told them was not final...their confusion would transform to purpose...their fear would become an indomitable faith

- But they needed to regroup ...they needed to learn more...it is incremental...
- Notice the three participles: "going," "baptizing," and "teaching." So the main thing is to make disciples, and you do this in three ways: going, baptizing, and teaching. "Going"—you do not wait for people to come to you, but you go to them. "Baptizing"—people make a public recognizable commitment to the Christian faith and repudiate the Roman gods. "Teaching"—instructing people to
- obey everything Jesus commanded, not just some things.

1. perhaps someone in here today had heard the call of God once and has wandered away in the chaos of life...but you are here today to regroup ...recommit and become recommissioned...
2. perhaps someone in here is just coming to Jesus to day...and perhaps like Joseph of Arimethea and nicodemus...have searched for God in secret and now is the time to go public...
3. perhaps someone in here has tried to find life in dead places...and today you want to meet him who is the life giver...

my Jesus lives...his call is in effect...or perhaps he is calling you...can you here him now??

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^{2PE 1:3} His *divine* power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

⁴ Through these he has given us his very great and precious promises, *so that through them you may participate in the divine nature* and escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

His divine power - God's omnipotence at work for us and in us! Amazing truth! God's power is not far off in some distant galaxy but is always abiding, always available and always adequate. **Divine** (2304) (**theios**) describes an attribute of God such as His power and not His character in its essence and totality. **Theios pertains to having the nature of God or as related to God by nature.**

Point 1... God's judgment wasn't only to free us from the penalty of sin...separation from God...but to judge us worthy to partake of a portion of his divine nature...so what does this mean...

We are part of the nature of God...invisible...glorious...eternal...pure...holy...the fullness of God's desire and plan for human beings! To have a part of his nature... the fullness of an image bearer..

- and God the Father speaking from the invisible the realm of God....it is true... there is a whole other dimension...there is an afterlife...
- **Peter Gets it ...his theology**