## 2023 Easter He has Risen means Everything

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; Resurrection means to restore life to its former condition and existence...which means to Rise from physical death to physical life.

Tim please put this on the screen:

Jesus resurrection takes it a step further His resurrection meansan eternal future for fully restored human beings dwelling on a fully restored earth

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 We bodies were formed by the elements of earth...our bodies are an intricate part of who we are....

NLT <u>Genesis 2:</u> <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God <u>formed the man from the dust of the ground</u>. He breathed the <u>breath of life into the man's nostrils</u>, and the <u>man became a living person</u>.

- Formed us from the dust of the ground...we are of the earth and meant to live one earth... our form was corrupted by the disease of sin...which leads to death..
- So even though we are saved...and filled with the Holy Spirit ...we lack one thing when we die..our bodies....and we will not be whole completely until they are given back to us

**NLT Romans 8:** <sup>23</sup> And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, <sup>[i]</sup> including the new bodies he has promised us. <sup>24</sup> We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. <sup>25</sup> But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

- Our adoption is completed with the redemption of our bodies! It is our hope...but some day it will be our reality
- not only restored humanity but all creation longs for this ...

NLT Romans 8: <sup>21</sup> the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. <sup>22</sup> For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.

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...

- Interesting term ..Childbirth...the new life is waiting to be born...
- but there is groaning and pain associated with it...but the new life is coming...
- the earth groans while waiting .. we groan also as we wait for the full number to come in...
- What is the glory?? We will resurrected and live again forever in this renewed and restored creation...
- Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a restoration that he will complete upon his return.

It is the most important doctrine and promise of our Christian Faith, for every other doctrine only has value if we live again after we die in bodily form..

Listen to what The Apostle Paul says...

**NLT 1 Corinthians 15:** <sup>13</sup> For if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised either. <sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, then all our preaching is useless, and your faith is useless.

- 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 liars and should not be believed in anything pertaining to God...

**NLT 1 Corinthians 15:17** <sup>17</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. <sup>18</sup> In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! <sup>19</sup> And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world.

## And he finishes this proposition with...

**NLT 1 Corinthians 15:32** ......And if there is no resurrection, "Let's feast and drink, for tomorrow we die!

- <u>if the resurrection is not true...death is final...</u> Christianity is the cruelest HOAX ...do what you want until we die! It does not matter anyway
- 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 dead man, we trust in a dead man! We would truly be the most foolish of all!!

## \*\*\*\*\* BUT," as Paul simply says here...

NLT 1CO 15: 20 But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died.

<sup>23</sup> But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.

# His resurrection is directly connected to us, he is the first of the resurrection....we are the following. complete upon his return.

- 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"

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

NLT 1JN 3: <sup>2</sup> Dear friends, we are already God's children, but he has not yet shown us what we will be like when Christ appears. But we do know that we will be like him, for we will see him as he really is.

## Paul speaks of it like this...

NLT <u>Philippians 3</u>: <sup>21</sup> He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control.

- six different times Jesus tells his followers about his death and resurrection...and not one time did they understand what he was talking about...we miss a whole bunch too..
- 1. \*\*\*Lets pick up the story of when they finally understood Jesus' plan.... a few of the women were going to go back to the tomb on the third day to to give him a proper burial and anointing. They did not believe he would rise from the dead at least literally...so they were going to do the proper Jewish burial procedures...
- 2. He is dead but at least they can slow the decay... anoint Jesus and say we love you...and good bye

NLT LK 24:1 But very early on Sunday morning [a] the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ...........The women came to the tomb very early, before it was light outside .... The women were looking NOT for a resurrected man, but for a DEAD man.

<sup>2</sup> They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. <sup>3</sup> So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes. <sup>5</sup> The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? <sup>6</sup> He isn't here! He is risen from the dead! Remember what he told you back in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day."

<sup>8</sup> Then they remembered that he had said this. <sup>9</sup> So they rushed back from the tomb to tell his eleven disciples—and everyone else—what had happened. <sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and several other women who told the apostles what had happened. <sup>11</sup> But the story sounded like nonsense to the men, so they didn't believe it. <sup>12</sup> However, Peter jumped up and ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; then he went home again, wondering what had happened.

We can believe in and love Jesus ...just like these ladies did...And still believe that Jesus cannot do what he said he would ... like the apostles did

- They did what a lot of Christians do...they spiritualized the resurrection which in effect denies it...There will be a resurrection kind of...we live in a spiritual state in heaven forever
- It is God's standard operating procedure for His work in the present to not be fully or often even halfway understood... They understood his plans better through hindsight...
- In retrospect, the disciples saw how Jesus had led them into a deeper and better understanding of his truth after he spoke it
- But it is through obedience and experience which takes time ...do we begin to understand his working out of His great plans...
- At this point in our lives ...not one person in here fully understands what God is doing with your life and in your life ....and through your life...
- the women believed ...the guys were a little slower ...that same evening..

JN 20: 19 That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus

was standing there among them! "Peace be with you," he said. <sup>20</sup> As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord!

But there is something that transcends understanding...and that is peace...peace in our hearts...Peace because we are ok with God...

- Peace be with you and me...he is stating...no need to fear we are at peace...I am alive like I told you...death or separation has been overcome...we will live together in Peace...the relationship between God and man is healed...
- But he adds something to it...because you and the Father are at peace I give you the promised Holy Spirit
- ...breathed the Holy Spirit into them....

  JN 20: 21 Again he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." 22 Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
  - They will never be separated from his love...Jesus lives in us and the Holy Spirit lives in us... we are at peace with God and belong to God! and we await a new body

<sup>10</sup> And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life<sup>[d]</sup> because you have been made right with God. <sup>11</sup> The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

You have been made right with God the Father....so Christ lives in us...the Spirit lives in us...The Spirit is at work in each of us right now!!! God the Father will resurrect our dead bodies by the Same Spirit that raised Jesus body...into glorious bodies... We win!!! Forever!

So when we suffer know this <u>Rom 8:18 Yet what we suffer now is</u> <u>nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.</u> So wait with confidence... 25 ..... we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.) keep on keeping on...it will all be worth it!!

**Eph 1:** <sup>14</sup> The Spirit is God's <u>guarantee</u> that he will give us the <u>inheritance</u> he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

- the Holy Spirit is God's guarantee of our inheritance...what is our inheritance? to live with Jesus in Resurrected bodies on earth!
- Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a restoration that he will complete upon his return. which results in Praise of God...never condemnation!

Romans 8: <sup>11</sup> The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

The Spirit is at work in each of us right now!!! If he will resurrect our dead bodies...into glorious bodies...that same power is available today to revive our souls now...what do you need revived?

- call it out by name...declare the resurrected power of Jesus over it...it has no more power to entomb you
- He will deliver you from it or deliver you through it...
- what has bound me...I now bind in the name of Jesus...and I loose freedom, love, power, health a sound mind!
- Walk in the power of the name of Jesus...the Resurrected King of all Creation end
- end

1. <u>Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a restoration that he</u> 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

- Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of the restoration of our bodies that he will complete upon his return.
- Jesus did not just die to wash us clean from our sins...he removed the consequence of our sins...death.

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- 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...

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

• Jesus did not just die to wash us clean from our sins...he removed the consequence of our sins...death.

It is Jesus <u>great love for us</u> that he overcame the power of sin by dying for us and ... ...it is the <u>great power of his love</u> that has made us alive ... removing our curse of death by overcoming death with resurrection

NLT <u>Genesis 2:</u> <sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God <u>formed the man from the dust of the ground</u>. He breathed the <u>breath of life into the man's nostrils</u>, and the <u>man became a living person</u>.

• Formed us from the dust of the ground...we are of the earth and meant to live one earth... our form was corrupted by the disease of sin...which leads to death..

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

- Jesus disciples did not understand this...and following this death..
- Jesus knew this revelation was to much for them to comprehend...and the night before he died... told them they would not understand...

<u>John 13:7</u> 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 ofwhat 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 dont 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.

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

<sup>LK 24:1</sup> 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

<sup>2</sup> They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. <sup>5</sup> 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? <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: <sup>7</sup> `The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " <sup>8</sup> Then they remembered his words.

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

### But they weren't the only ones...

<sup>LK 24:9</sup> When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. <sup>10</sup> It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles. <sup>11</sup> 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 eveyone 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 <sup>12</sup> and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. <sup>13</sup> 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." <sup>14</sup> At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> 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...

<sup>17</sup> 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.'" 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...oh now I get it

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...

- 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 until all things ae ready to be restored...

#### Until the imte of rest

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

**Hebrews 10:** <sup>12</sup> But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, <sup>13</sup> and since that time he waits for his enemies to be made his footstool. <sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>19</sup> and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> 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 relatioinship to him they are below us too!

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

• Therefore at the name of Jesus every being will bow...

<sup>Phil 2:10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,<sup>11</sup> 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

<sup>Gal 4:6</sup> Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "*Abba*,<sup>[a]</sup> Father." <sup>7</sup> 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...