

# RESURRECTION 93

1. THE EASTER STORY
  
2. THE STORY BEHIND THE STORY
  1. Why is the resurrection so important?
  2. Didn't Jesus come to die for our sins?
  3. If He had not risen from the dead, would he have not accomplished what He came for?
  
3. JESUS CAME TO DEFEAT THE DEVIL AND TO DESTROY HIS WORKS
  1. When Jesus died, Satan thought he had won over Jesus.
  2. The victory of Jesus was not completed at the cross.
    1. It was finished, when he was raised from the dead.
    2. Resurrection signalled His victory over Satan in death.
    3. He took the keys of death, hell, and the grave.
  3. Satan had gained ascendancy over mankind when sin entered through rebellion.
  4. The ensuing death of man was the mark or the symbol of that victory of Satan.
  5. If Jesus had not been raised, death would still have reigned--but that has been broken!
  
4. JESUS BROKE THE CHAINS OF DEATH TO SET US FREE
  1. *"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ."* (Rom. 5:17)
  2. *"For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be*

*made alive.*" (I Co. 15:21-22).

3. How can Jesus offer eternal life if He had not conquered death to obtain unto life?
4. What other religion can offer eternal life? Their gods died and did not conquer death. How can they offer eternal life?

5. THE RESURRECTION WAS THE THEME OF THE EARLY CHURCH'S GOSPEL. THEIR EVERYDAY MESSAGE WAS THE RESURRECTION.

1. For this they were persecuted.
2. They made it a point every opportunity to slip in the resurrection.
  1. *"Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole."* (Ac. 4:10).
3. Paul called into question because "of the hope and the resurrection of the dead."
  1. *"Moreover, brethren I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved...how that Christ died for our sins, according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he arose the third day according to the scriptures."* (I Co. 15:1-4).

6. IF THERE BE NO RESURRECTION

1. Christ is not raised.
2. And if Christ be not raised; faith in vain; yet in sins.
3. There is no remission of sins without shed blood--there is no remission of sins without resurrection; without it, the work of redemption not completed.

7. WHY IS JESUS THE FIRST TO BE RAISED FROM THE DEAD?
  1. Weren't there others? Elijah, Elisha, Jesus's earthly ministry-- Lazarus, the widow's son in funeral procession? All of these were raised from the dead to die again and to be subject to corruptibility again.
  2. Jesus was raised incorruptible--to never die again.
    1. He became a new creature.
    2. He desires to raise us up as new creatures.
  3. We are identified with Him in death.
  4. We are also identified with Him in life.
    1. Because He lives, we can live.
    2. No longer to be subject to the bondage of sin and corruption.
    3. We have been raised up--to bear the incorruptible seed of the life of God.
    4. We have been raised up with Him unto eternal life.
  
8. ETERNAL LIFE IS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE.