

RESURRECTION 94

1. THE CRUCIFIXION.

1. Friday was a dark day--literally.
 1. The sky turned dark.
 2. The graves were opened--many were seen walking in the city.
2. What took place when Jesus died?
 1. Went to lower parts of the earth to preach to spirits--set captive spirits free.
 1. *"By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison..." (1 Pe. 3:19).*
 2. Ps. 24:7-10 - *"Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory."*
 2. Col. 2:15 - *"And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."*

2. THE STORY OF THE RESURRECTION.

1. Jesus had prophesied his resurrection.
 1. Destroy this temple and in three days I'll raise it up.
 2. As Jonah was 3 days and 3 nights in belly of the whale...
 3. *"The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified and the third day rise again..."*

4. Why had not the disciples heard what He was saying?
 1. *"For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead." (Jn. 20:9).*
 2. *"And they remembered his words..." (Lu. 24:8).*
2. The day of the resurrection.
 1. *"And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for He is risen..." (Mt. 28:5-6).*
 2. *"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen:..." (Lu. 24:5-6).*
3. RESPONSE TO THE RESURRECTION.
 1. Elders were convinced that he rose from the dead.
 1. Gave money to soldiers to lie--disciples stole his body.
 2. Faced with dilemma--whether would believe it or not; if believe, faced with choice of recognizing Him as the Son of God who truly rose from the dead.
 2. The disciples had mixed feelings, including fear..
 1. *"And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy..." (Mt. 28:8).*
 2. *"But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit." (Lu. 24:37).*
 3. *"And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid." (Mk. 16:8).*
 4. When Jesus stood in their midst - *"But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit." (Lu. 24:37).*

1. *"Then said Jesus unto them, Be not afraid: go tell my brethren..." (Mt. 28:10).*
 2. *"And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts?" (Lu. 24:38).*
3. They doubted.
1. *"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted (Mt. 28:16-17)."*
 2. *"Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen." (Mk. 16:14).*
 3. (The women to the apostles) *"And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not." (Lu. 24:11).*
 4. *"Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed." (Jn. 20:29).*
 5. *"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" (Lu. 24:25-26).*
4. HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND?
1. What would you have done had you heard the news that He had arisen? They apparently were not anticipating the resurrection.
 2. What would you have done if someone suddenly appeared in your room--coming through a wall and then disappearing?
 3. Are not our hearts slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken?

Have our eyes also been blinded?

4. Have not miraculous things been declared unto us? How have we responded? Believe? Unbelief? Skepticism?
5. Can we be guiltless?
6. What have we done about receiving Jesus? Have we not been convinced as the elders evidently were? What about our decision?
7. *"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, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. for I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures..." (I Cor. 15:1-4).*
 1. What not the gospel been declared unto us?
 2. Have we believed in vain?

5. IT IS TIME TO RECOGNIZE AND TO RECEIVE THE RISEN SAVIOR.
 1. He is risen!
 2. And He lives forevermore!
 3. He has conquered death, hell, and the grave!
 4. Because He lives, we can live!
 5. *"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." (Rev. 1:18).*