



**THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RESURRECTION
OR, TRUTHS DEPENDENT UPON
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
EASTER SUNDAY: March 31, 2013**

INTRODUCTION:

The central doctrine of the Christian Church is the Resurrection of Christ. Everything that we believe is tied to that one Sunday morning.

I. TRUTHS DEPENDENT UPON THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

E. OUR EVANGELISM (FRUITFULNESS) (Rom. 7:4)

- If there is no Salvation, then there is no need for Evangelism
- 2000 years of preaching wasted.

A. OUR ASSURANCE OF SALVATION (Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25)

S. OUR SALVATION (Rom. 10:9-10; 4:24)

Justification To count righteous; to put into a right relationship (with God). (PWS)

- If Christ did not rise, then there is no Savior.

T. THE TRIUMPH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS (Acts 17:31)

- If there is no Resurrection, then Evil has won!
- All of the wrongs that we face, all the injustice, will never be accounted for.

E. OUR EFFECTIVENESS IN THE LORD'S WORK (Gal. 2:20)

- If there is no Resurrection, then folks, we are alone in trying to do this work! All is in the flesh, for there is no risen Lord to have sent His Spirit!

R. THE RESURRECTION OF OUR OWN BODIES

(John 14:19; 1 Cor. 15:20-23)

- If there is no Resurrection ... every Christian funeral a joke!

REVIEW (1 Cor. 15:17-19)

II. THE EVENTS OF THAT FIRST EASTER SUNDAY

A. WHAT DIDN'T HAPPEN

1. THE **ROMANS** DIDN'T MOVE THAT BODY
2. THE **JEWS** DIDN'T MOVE THAT BODY
3. THE **DISCIPLES** DIDN'T MOVE THAT BODY

B. WHAT DID HAPPEN!

1. A STONE ROLLED AWAY
2. A GRAVE THAT WAS **EMPTY**
3. ANGELS THAT SPOKE
4. CLOTHES THAT WERE LAID OUT BY THEMSELVES.
5. THE **NAPKINS** FOLDED, AND PUT BY ITSELF
6. OVER 500 WITNESSES SAW HIM
7. **JEWS** SCRAMBLED TO COVER THEMSELVES, CREATING STORIES BACKED UP BY BRIBES.
8. UNBELIEVING FAMILY AND APOSTLES SUDDENLY FOUND **FAITH**.
9. **APOSTLES** PREACHED ABOUT IT, AND NO ONE GAINSAID THEM.
10. APOSTLES, DISCIPLES **DIED** FOR HIM!

QUOTE: The Gospels do not explain the Resurrection; the Resurrection explains the Gospels. Belief in the Resurrection is not an appendage to the Christian faith; it is the Christian faith. John S. Whale

III. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EASTER

A. WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE BELIEVER

Since Christ is Risen

1. SALVATION IS REAL
2. OUR ASSURANCE OF HEAVEN IS CERTAIN (2 Tim. 1:12)
3. OUR EVANGELISM CAN GO ON WITH DIVINE **PURPOSE**
4. OUR EFFECTIVENESS IN THE LORD'S WORK IS ASSURED BECAUSE HE **INTERCEDES**
5. THE TRIUMPH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS WILL OCCUR
6. THE RESURRECTION OF OUR OWN BODIES IS NO **FANTASY**
(1 Thess. 4:13-18)

B. WHAT THIS MEANS FOR THE **UNCONVERTED** (Acts 24:15; Jn. 5:28-29)

CONCLUSION