



“RESURRECTION POWER!”

Resurrection Sunday Morning Service Sermon – Sunday, April 21st, 2019

Philippians 3:10 (KJV) – *“That I may know him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.”*

- There is a lot of **POWER** going on that early Sunday morning when Jesus Christ was risen from the dead after His death on the Cross, and burial in the borrowed tomb. Great **POWER** was displayed by the Heavenly Father Who raised Him with all His mighty **POWER**, mighty strength and mighty muscle.
- The **POWER** that raised Christ from the dead was the single greatest demonstration of God's **POWER** in history, even greater than in Creation itself.
- We Paul see in Philippians Chapter 3 that compared to **POWER** of Christ's Resurrection that he **PROCLAIMED** that knowing this **POWER** is far more impactful and far more important than having the edge by cultural heritage and family pedigree, the right experience, having an excellent report, having the best education and having the expertise needed. (**Read Philippians 3:1 – 14**)
- The Apostle Paul proclaimed loud and clear that he wanted to know this **POWER**, and he encouraged the Church to know this **POWER** as well.
- In the Ephesians 1 Prayer Paul by the Holy Spirit calls it, *“the exceeding greatness of His power”*, and declares that it is *“toward us who believe”*.
- **Ephesians 1:19 – 20 (TPT)** – *“**I pray that you will continually experience the immeasurable greatness of God's power made available to you through faith. Then your lives will be an advertisement of this immense power as it works through you! This is the mighty power²⁰ that was released when God raised Christ from the dead and exalted Him to the place of highest honor and supreme authority in the heavenly realm!**”*

THE POWER OF THE CROSS

Galatians 6:14 (NKJV) – *“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.”*

- **(TPT)** – *“My only boast is in the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus, our Messiah. In him I have been crucified to this natural realm; and the natural realm is dead to me and no longer dominates my life.”*
- It is said that there is a wall built in Jerusalem to protect citizens from terrorists who were coming into their neighborhoods and killing innocent people. This wall is 26 feet high and 33 feet wide in some places. Like that wall, the cross has formed a barrier to protect anyone who in **“IN CHRIST”** from the world and sin. Listen to the **(Bruce)** translation – *“But far be it from me to boast about anything except the cross of our head Jesus Christ: that cross forms a permanent barrier (to erect a fence) between the world and me, and between me and the world.”*
- Friends, you and I win against **SIN**, SATAN, SICKNESS, SHAME and SORROW because of the **POWER** of the Cross of Christ!
- **DECLARING YOUR IDENTIFICATION WITH CHRIST IS THE WAY TO FREE YOURSELF FROM SIN AND ITS POWER IN YOUR LIFE! CONFESSING THAT JESUS CHRIST IS LORD OVER MY LIFE FROM A HEART OF FAITH BELIEVING THAT HE DIED FOR ME, WENT TO HELL FOR ME, PAID THE PRICE AND MORE FOR MY SIN, MY SHAME, MY SICKNESS, MY SORROW IS POWERFUL AND TRANSFORMATIONAL!**
 - HIS SHED BLOOD, HIS PRECIOUS BLOOD NEVER LOSES ITS POWER! HE PAID IT ALL FOR ME!
 - **Romans 10:9 – 10, 13 (NKJV)** – *“⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. ¹³ For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”*

- Why be ashamed of this Good News? Why do people look at the Cross and hang their head in shame and sorrow? Why be ashamed, when we should SHOUT... I am REDEEMED! I am FREE! JESUS paid it all for me! I have VICTORY! Glory to God! Sin has no hold on me! ☺
- **Romans 1:16 (NKJV)** – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is **the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.**”
- There was and there is **POWER** is the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord! These three days, and three nights and the event of the resurrection changed **EVERYTHING!** That’s the Gospel, that’s Good News!
- **1 Corinthians 15:1 – 5 (NLT)** – “Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. ² It is this Good News that saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place. ³ I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. ⁴ He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. ⁵ He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve. ⁶ After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷ Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles. ⁸ Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him.”
- Why was Good Friday so good? Because Jesus paid the **PRICE**, and we got the **GIFT** of Salvation.
- **Romans 6:23 (NLT)** – “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”
 - Friends, we must realize and understand that His Cross was our Cross.
 - God through His Son Jesus Christ made a decision motivated by His love for us to: (1) **DIE** our death; (2) **PAY** the price for sin in Hell; (3) **STEP UP** to be our **SUBSTITUTE** and **STAND UP** to be our **SACRIFICE**.
- **Romans 4:25 (NLT)** – “He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.”
- **Romans 5:8 (NLT)** – “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”
- **There is POWER in the Cross:** (1) To **SAVE** us from the **POWER** of sin (2) To **REDEEM** us from the **POWER** of Satan’s control over us (3) To **SANCTIFY** us from the **POWER** of the world and wickedness to contaminate us and prevent us from being useful for God; and (4) To **DELIVER** us from the **POWER** of **DEATH** to defeat, destroy and doom us to Hell and the Lake of Fire.
 - **SANCTIFY** = to make holy, to purify, to cleanse, to set apart, and to consecrate. It means to set apart something or someone for a special purpose. **SANCTIFICATION** means not only separation from **sin** but also separation from what may be **permissible**. It is an **ACT** of God.
 - P.C. Nelson, a renown Bible scholar, fluent in 14 different languages including the Hebrew and Greek, said this about **SANCTIFICATION**: “**Sanctification is realized in the believer by recognizing his identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection, and by faith reckoning daily upon the fact of union with Christ, and by offering daily every faculty continually to the dominion of the Holy Spirit.**”
 - In other words, **SANCTIFICATION** begins with the work God did for us in the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. The cross brings sin to an **END**. The old creation is destroyed and there is a resurrection provided whereby there is a complete continuation of Christ’s victory.
- So, in other words, when sin tries to enter your life, you apply or plead the blood of Jesus and it has no power to **dominate, debilitate or devastate** you!
- AS BELIEVERS IN JESUS CHRIST AS OUR LORD AND PERSONAL SAVIOR, AND FOLLOWERS OF JESUS, WE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM. HE WAS OUR SUBSTITUTE ON THE CROSS. HE WAS OUR SUBSTITUTE IN DEATH. HE WAS OUR SUBSTITUTE IN HELL. WHEN HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD, WE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM AND WE ROSE. BECAUSE HE’S ALIVE, WE ARE IDENTIFIED WITH HIM AND WE ARE ALIVE FOREVERMORE!
- **Galatians 2:20 (NLT)** – “My old self has been crucified with Christ.^[a] It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.”
 - We **CELEBRATE** what Jesus did, but we also **CLAIM** and **CONFESS** by faith that we were there too. He took me to Cross with Him too. When He rose from the dead, I rose too! When He ascended and sat down next to the Father on high, He raised me up together with Jesus and made me sit down in Heavenly places in Christ!
 - Jesus stood up for us and step in for us as our **SUBSTITUTE** and our **SACRIFICE!**
 - Jesus Christ our Lord did it all for us and credited it to our account as if we did it! Jesus gets all the **GLORY** and the **PRAISE**, and we get all the **CREDIT!** THERE IS POWER IN THE CROSS!

THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION

1 Peter 1:3 – 9 (TPT) – “³ Celebrate with praises the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has shown us his extravagant mercy. For his fountain of mercy has given us a new life—we are reborn to experience a living, energetic hope through **the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead**. ⁴ We are reborn into a perfect inheritance that can never perish, never be defiled, and never diminish. It is promised and preserved forever in the heavenly realm for you! ⁵ Through our faith, the mighty power of God constantly guards us until our full salvation is ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ May the thought of this cause you to jump for joy, even though lately you’ve had to put up with the grief of many trials. ⁷ But these only reveal the sterling core of your faith, which is far more valuable than gold that perishes, for even gold is refined by fire. Your authentic faith will result in even more praise, glory, and honor when Jesus the Anointed One is revealed. ⁸ You love him passionately although you did not see him, but through believing in him you are saturated with an ecstatic joy, indescribably sublime and immersed in glory. ⁹ For you are reaping the harvest of your faith—the full salvation promised you—your souls’ victory!”

- Friends, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is a historical fact to be CELEBRATED, a future event to ANTICIPATED, and a current reality to be EXPERIENCED.
- The same POWER that what in the event is in the message of the Gospel. Many people want more POWER, but in fact they need more Gospel because the Gospel is the POWER of GOD to SALVATION, DELIVERANCE, SAFETY, HEALING, PROTECTION, PRESERVATION, WELFARE, PROSPERITY and ETERNAL LIFE!
- If there is one word in Scripture that decisively communicates God’s overwhelming determination to EMPOWER and LIFT His people, it is the word RESURRECTION.
- People who merely give a respectful nod to Christ’s resurrection once a year do not experience His Resurrection POWER on a daily basis. THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST HAS THE POWER TO PROVIDE MORE THAN ENOUGH:
 - (1) HEALING for our PAST (2) HELP for our PRESENT and (3) HOPE for our FUTURE!
 - The average Christian knows of Jesus’ resurrection as historical fact and is aware of the resurrection of the dead – that future event when believers will receive glorified bodies. However, believers also need to experience and apply this RESURRECTION POWER to their daily lives in the here and now.
- **Romans 8:11 (NLT)** – “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.” That’s RESURRECTION POWER for you now! The Holy Spirit Who comes to reside in you at the moment you receive Jesus as your Lord and personal Savior lives in us now, and he is certainly not dormant!
- **Philippians 3:10 (KJV)** – “That I may know him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.” (Read the AMPC) This is not later after death, this is knowing both Christ the PERSON and His POWER today and every day; to empower you to advance and move forward in Christ, stay focused on Christ, to practice the forgetting of things done before and outside of Christ, and harness the discipline and dedication to faithfully keep following wholeheartedly after Christ.
- Consider again Paul’s prayer again, **Ephesians 1:19 – 20 (NLT)** – “¹⁹ I also pray that you will understand the **incredible greatness of God’s power** for us who believe him. This is **the same mighty power** ²⁰ that raised Christ from the dead and seated Him in the place of honor at God’s right hand in the heavenly realms.”
 - The Amplified Bible emphasizes the fact that Resurrection POWER is to work IN US and FOR US! This means we can know the same POWER that raised Jesus from the dead in an experiential way!
 - Greek scholar Kenneth Wuest points out that this incredibly great POWER that God releases toward us “is not thought of here as operating only in the future, but also at present.”
 - Elmer Towns writes concerning the same passage: “If Christians understood and applied the resurrection and ascension of Christ, it would radically change much of the work done for God by them. Christians need not be defeated. The same POWER that raised Jesus from the dead works not only to save us but to assist us in our Christian life and service.”
 - Scholars Guy Duffield and Nathaniel Van Cleave refer to Resurrection POWER as “the power that defeated death.” They then state that for us who believe, this same POWER “is sufficient for every day and every emergency.” Do we believe that?
 - Eugene Peterson says “The resurrection of Jesus establishes the conditions in which we live and mature in the Christian life. When we practice resurrection, we continuously enter into what is more that we are. When we practice resurrection, we keep company with Jesus, alive and present, Who knows where we are going better than we do, which is always “from glory unto glory.””
- If you’ve lost your power in life, in your marriage, in your job, in your health, in your emotions or in your ministry, take it back by THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION today!