

THE BROADLANDS BROADCAST

**For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust,
so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit;
1 Peter 3:18**

Happy Easter,

I intended to get this out way before now, but sometimes life and ministry get in the way, which is not a complaint but simply how things are. I apologize for my tardiness!

This time of year is very special for me when I think of theology, my salvation and the wonders of Christ. I pray that as you read the content of this newsletter you will come away amazed and grateful at the wonders of God's love, mercy and grace toward us through His Son, Jesus Christ!

Love y'all!!!

Tim Bergen

What is more important, the death of Christ or His resurrection?

The death and resurrection of Christ are equally important. Jesus' death and resurrection accomplish separate but necessarily related things. The death and resurrection of our Lord are really inseparable, like the warp and weft of cloth.

The cross of Christ won for us the victory that we could never have won for ourselves. "Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross" (Colossians 2:15). On the cross God piled our sins on Jesus, and He bore the punishment due us (Isaiah 53:4-8). In His death, Jesus took upon Himself the curse introduced by Adam (see Galatians 3:13).

With the death of Christ, our sins became powerless to rule over us (Romans 6). By His death, Jesus destroyed the works of the devil (John 12:31; Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8), condemned Satan (John 16:11), and crushed the head of the serpent (Genesis 3:15).

Without the sacrificial death of Christ, we would still be in our sins, unforgiven, unredeemed, unsaved, and unloved. The cross of Christ is vital to our salvation and was thus a main theme of the apostles' preaching (Acts 2:23, 36; 1 Corinthians 1:23; 2:2; Galatians 6:14).

But the story of Jesus Christ did not end with His death. The resurrection of Christ is also foundational to the gospel message. Our salvation stands or falls based on the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ, as Paul makes clear in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. If Christ is not physically risen from the dead, then we ourselves have no hope of resurrection, the apostles' preaching was in vain, and believers are all to be pitied. Without the resurrection, we are still sitting "in darkness and in the shadow of death" waiting for the sunrise (Luke 1:78-79).

Because of Jesus' resurrection, His promise holds true for us: "Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19). Our great enemy, death, will be defeated (1 Corinthians 15:26, 54-55). Jesus' resurrection is also important because it is through that event that God declares us righteous: Jesus "was raised to life for our justification" (Romans 4:25). The gift of the Holy Spirit was sent from the resurrected and ascended Lord Jesus (John 16:7).

At least three times in His earthly ministry, Jesus predicted that He would die and rise again after three days (Mark 8:31; 9:31; 10:34). If Jesus Christ had not been raised from the dead, He would have failed in His prophecies—He would have been yet another false prophet to be ignored. As it is, however, we have a living Lord, faithful to His Word. The angel at Jesus' empty tomb was able to point to fulfilled prophecy: "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said" (Matthew 28:6).

Scripture links the death and resurrection of Christ, and we must maintain that link. Jesus' entrance into the tomb is as equally important as His exit from the tomb. In 1 Corinthians 15:3-5, Paul defines the gospel as the dual truth that Jesus died for our sins (proved by His burial) and that He rose again the third day (proved by His appearances to many witnesses). This gospel truth is "of first importance" (verse 3).

It is impossible to separate the death of Christ from His resurrection. To believe in one without the other is to believe in a false gospel that cannot save. In order for Jesus to have truly arisen from the dead, He must have truly died. And in order for His death to have a true

meaning for us, He must have a true resurrection. We cannot have one without the other.

<https://bit.ly/3sHb9Yx>

Five Truths About the Death of Jesus

Joseph Scheumann

Grace is at the heart of the Christian faith. Nowhere is this more clearly seen than at the cross of Christ. It is grace that the Son of God took on flesh, and grace that he taught us how to live — but it is especially grace that he died on the cross in our place.

Moreover, this climactic grace shown at the cross has a specific shape — it has edges. These edges help us see what exactly happened when Jesus died. And it's important that we see because seeing leads to worship — you can't worship what you don't know.

So in hopes of more clarity — fuel for worship — here are five biblical truths about what Jesus accomplished on the cross.

1. The death of Jesus was for his enemies.

God's love is different than natural human love. God loves us when we're utterly unlovable. When Jesus died, he died for the ungodly, for sinners, and for his enemies. Paul gets at how contrary this is to human nature when he writes, "For one will scarcely die for a righteous person, though perhaps for a good person one would dare to die, but God shows his love for us in that while we were sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:7–8).

2. The death of Jesus purchased a people.

The death of Christ was effective in its purpose. And its goal was not just to purchase the possibility of salvation, but a people for his own possession. Hear Jesus's words: "All that the Father gives to me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out... And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day" (John 6:36, 39).

If we say that Christ only purchased the opportunity of salvation for all men we gut biblical words such as redemption of their meaning. John Murray writes: "It is to beggar the conception of redemption as an effective securing of release by price and power to construe it as anything less than the effectual accomplishment which secures the salvation of those who are its objects. Christ did not come to put men in a redeemable position but to redeem to himself a people" (Redemption Accomplished and Applied, 63).

3. The death of Jesus is on our behalf.

Jesus's death was substitutionary. That is, he died in our place. He died the death that we deserved. He bore the punishment that was justly ours. For everyone who believes in him, Christ took the wrath of God on their behalf. Peter writes, "[Jesus] himself bore our sin in his body on the tree that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed" (1 Peter 2:24).

4. The death of Jesus defines love.

Jesus's death wasn't just an act of love, it defines love. His substitutionary death is the ultimate example of what love means, and Jesus calls those who follow him to walk in the same kind of life-laying-down love. John writes, "By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:16). John Piper explains: "Jesus's death is both guilt-bearing and guidance-giving. It is a death that forgives sin and a death that models love. It is the purchase of our life from perishing and the pattern of a life of love" (What Jesus Demands from the World, 266).

5. The death of Jesus reconciles us to God.

Justification, propitiation, and redemption — all benefits of Christ's death — have one great purpose: reconciliation. Jesus's death enables us to have a joy-filled relationship with God, which is the highest good of the cross. Paul writes, "And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him" (Colossians 1:21–22).

Think about how this works in our relationships with other people. When we sin, not only do we hurt the person we sin against, we harm the relationship. It will never be the same until we seek forgiveness. So it is with our relationship with God. We enter this world sinful, and as a result, we're alienated from God. Only forgiveness — forgiveness which was purchased at the cross — can heal the relationship so that we are able to enjoy fellowship with God.

Joseph Scheumann is a graduate of Bethlehem College & Seminary. He and his wife, Martha, live in Arkansas.

<https://bit.ly/39xn2ZU>

Why is the reality of the bodily resurrection of Jesus so central to the Christian faith?

The bodily resurrection of Jesus refers to the actual body of Jesus returning from the dead after three days rather than merely His spirit in some sort of ghost-like form. There are many reasons the bodily resurrection of Jesus is important.

First, the bodily resurrection of Jesus affirmed and proved the divine nature of Jesus. If God is eternal, then He cannot die. If Jesus was dead and remained dead, then He could not be God. His bodily resurrection proved He was more than a man; Jesus is the God-man, or God in human form.

Second, the bodily resurrection serves as the basis for the Christian faith. In 1 Corinthians 15:14 we read, "And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain."

Third, the bodily resurrection, if untrue, means that all who share the gospel message are frauds and liars. Paul wrote that if the resurrection did not take place, "We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised." (1 Corinthians 15:15).

Fourth, the bodily resurrection anticipates the future resurrection of all believers. First Corinthians 15:16 teaches, "For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised." The resurrection of Christ serves as the basis for the future resurrection of all who believe in Him.

Fifth, without the bodily resurrection, believers are still in their sins. First Corinthians 15:17-19 share, "And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied."

Sixth, the bodily resurrection of Jesus from the dead fulfilled His own prophecies. Jesus personally foretold that He would die and rise again. For example, John 2:19-21 states, "Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking about the temple of his body."

Seventh, if the bodily resurrection did not take place, many Christians have been persecuted and even died for a lie. This would be sad if true, but the fact of the empty tomb and many eyewitnesses of the resurrected Jesus point to

a man who was more than a man; He is the Messiah. Those who trust in Him will never be put to shame (Romans 10:11).

The bodily, physical resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the single most important event in world history. Through Him, we can have eternal life (John 3:16) and abundant life (John 10:10).

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Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

1 Peter 1:3-5

Christ's Resurrection: The Source of Hope

Nathan Busenitz

The resurrection of the Lord Jesus stands at the center of our hope as Christians. Because Christ is risen, we know that His death on the cross accomplished its saving purpose as the once-for-all sacrifice for sin. Moreover, because Christ is risen, we who are in Him have the hope of a glorious resurrection.

Some time ago, I stumbled across a fascinating Newsweek article from 1968 entitled Soul on Ice.

The article reports the premature death of 24-year-old Stephen J. Mendel due to chronic illness. Before his death however, Stephen sought to safeguard his future by having his body frozen in the hopes he could one day be thawed and revived if a cure for his illness were ever found. In compliance with his wishes, upon his death his body was taken, infused with anti-freeze, packed with dry-ice, and placed indefinitely in a capsule. "A remote chance" of success was all Mendel's mother was willing to grant this science-fiction-like endeavor. Nonetheless, she continued, "It was easier for me to bear because there wasn't the same finality of putting someone away under the earth."

This is a fascinating, albeit tragic, story. It highlights the profound pessimism of those who do not know the Lord.

As Christians, we are also hoping for a future resurrection, but unlike Mendel, our hope is based not on a future defrost, but on the very promise of God.

For you as a believer, your resurrection is not the fantasy of science fiction, but the inevitable reality of biblical fact. It requires no ice, no anti-freeze, no liquid nitrogen; you can be buried, drowned, or cremated. Only one thing is important – that you possess a saving relationship with Jesus Christ. As a member of His family, you can anticipate with confidence the resurrection unto life (John 5:29).

Paul, in 2 Corinthians 5, reminds us that this future reality is to be eagerly anticipated, or – in his words – groaned for. In fact, in 1 Corinthians 15, Paul describes the staggering reality of experiencing eternal life in a resurrection body. The hope of a resurrection unto eternal life is the difference between Christian and non-Christian funerals. It explains why we do not mourn like the rest of the world, which has no hope (see 1 Thess 4:13).

Such optimism, even in the face of death, is predicated upon the reality that Christ has risen from the grave. His resurrection guarantees the same for those who belong to Him. Consequently, for believers, there are no “good-bye’s,” just “see you later’s.”

The hope of heaven is predicated on the reality of Christ’s resurrection. It provides the basis on which believers can face death with unflinching confidence.

Charles Spurgeon, speaking of those in his own congregation who had died, said,

The very happiest persons I have ever met with have been departing believers, the only people for whom I have felt any envy have been dying members of this very church, whose hands I have grasped in their passing away, almost without exception, I have seen in them holy delight and triumph and in the expectations to this, and in the exceptions to this exceeding joy, I’ve seen deep peace exhibited in a calm and deliberate readiness to enter into the presence of their God.

Because the Lord Jesus conquered sin and death through His crucifixion and resurrection, believers can now face death without fear or trepidation. They know they are going home, into the presence of their Savior and Lord.

After all, it is the presence of Christ that makes heaven so wonderful. Heaven will never grow boring, because Heaven is Christ, and Christ is infinitely glorious. We will

worship Him forever, and our love for Him will only deepen as the centuries and millennia pass by.

When we consider the incredible hope that we enjoy, that we anticipate with eagerness as Christians – there is reason for everlasting rejoicing. This hope centers on the resurrection of our Savior. And that is why we have so much to celebrate this weekend.

<https://bit.ly/3whxRc7>

Little Philip, born with Down's syndrome, attended a third-grade Sunday School class with several eight-year-old boys and girls. Typical of that age, the children did not readily accept Philip with his differences, according to an article in leadership magazine. But because of a creative teacher, they began to care about Philip and accept him as part of the group, though not fully.

The Sunday after Easter the teacher brought L'eggs pantyhose containers, the kind that look like large eggs. Each receiving one, the children were told to go outside on that lovely spring day, find some symbol for new life, and put it in the egg-like container. Back in the classroom, they would share their new-life symbols, opening the containers one by one in surprise fashion. After running about the church property in wild confusion, the students returned to the classroom and placed the containers on the table. Surrounded by the children, the teacher began to open them one by one. After each one, whether a flower, butterfly, or leaf, the class would ooh and ahh.

Then one was opened, revealing nothing inside. The children exclaimed, That's stupid. That's not fair. Somebody didn't do their assignment."

Philip spoke up, "That's mine."

"Philip, you don't ever do things right!" the student retorted. "There's nothing there!"

"I did so do it," Philip insisted. "I did do it. It's empty. the tomb was empty!"

Silence followed. From then on Philip became a full member of the class. He died not long afterward from an infection most normal children would have shrugged off. At the funeral this class of eight-year-olds marched up to the altar not with flowers, but with their Sunday school teacher, each to lay on it an empty pantyhose egg.

Why We Believe Jesus Rose from the Dead

Kurt E. DeHaan

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, the Christian faith is a foolish fantasy. However, if the resurrection of Christ did occur, it confirms His life, message, and atoning work. It is the basis of our hope of life beyond the grave. Christ is alive, and the evidence is overwhelming. Here are some of the reasons we can be so sure.

1. Jesus predicted His resurrection (Matt 16:21; Mark 9:9-10; John 2:18-22).
2. The Old Testament prophesied it (Psalm 16:10; compare Acts 2:25-31; 13:33-37).
3. The tomb was empty and the grave clothes vacant. if those who opposed Christ wished to silence His disciples, all they had to do was produce a body, but they could not (John 20:3-9).
4. Many people saw the resurrected Christ. They looked on His face, touched Him, heard His voice, and saw Him eat (Matt. 28:16-20; Luke 24:13-39; John 20:11-29; John 21:1-9; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Cor. 15:3-8).
5. The lives of the disciples were revolutionized. Though they fled and even denied Christ at the time of His arrest, they later feared no one in their proclamation of the risen Christ (Matt 26:56, 69-75).6. The resurrection was the central message of the early church. The church grew with an unwavering conviction that Christ had risen and was the Lord of the church (Acts 4:33; 5:30-32; Rom. 5:24).
6. Men and women today testify that the power of the risen Christ has transformed their lives. We know that Jesus is alive not only because of the

historical and biblical evidence but also because He has miraculously touched our lives.

April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Tim Reeves 2nd
Steve and Caryn Simmons 2nd
Keirston Maynor 2nd
Patsy and James Carpenter 4th
Aimee Buford 4th
Kayley Dykes 5th
Ronnie and Rae Dein Jackson 6th
Olivia Chimene 10th
John and Lavone Fryar 13th
Clarence and Joan Friend 15th
April Chimene 19th
Kathy Lee 23rd
Ronald Harrington 26th
Darval and Betty Burks 28th

Nursery Worker Schedule

03/28 & 04/04 Cathy & Avery Gregory
04/11 & 04/18 Sarah Harrington & Kellie Friend
04/25 & 05/02 Judy Bergen & Teresa Smith

Elder/Deacon Schedule

04/04 David Smith
04/11 Austin Arabie
04/18 Tim Bergen
04/25 Geoff Lee

Activities

EASTER—Sunday, 04/04

COMMUNION—Sunday, 04/04

REGULAR PROGRAMMING RESUMES—04/11

LEADERSHIP MEETING—Friday, 04/16 @ 6:00 pm

BERTRAM BOBB BIBLE CAMP WORKTRIP—05/02-05/06

CHURCH WORKDAY—Saturday, 05/15 @ 8:00 am

CRAWFISH BOIL—Sunday, 05/30 @ 5:00 pm

VBS—July 19-23