

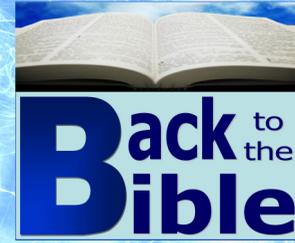
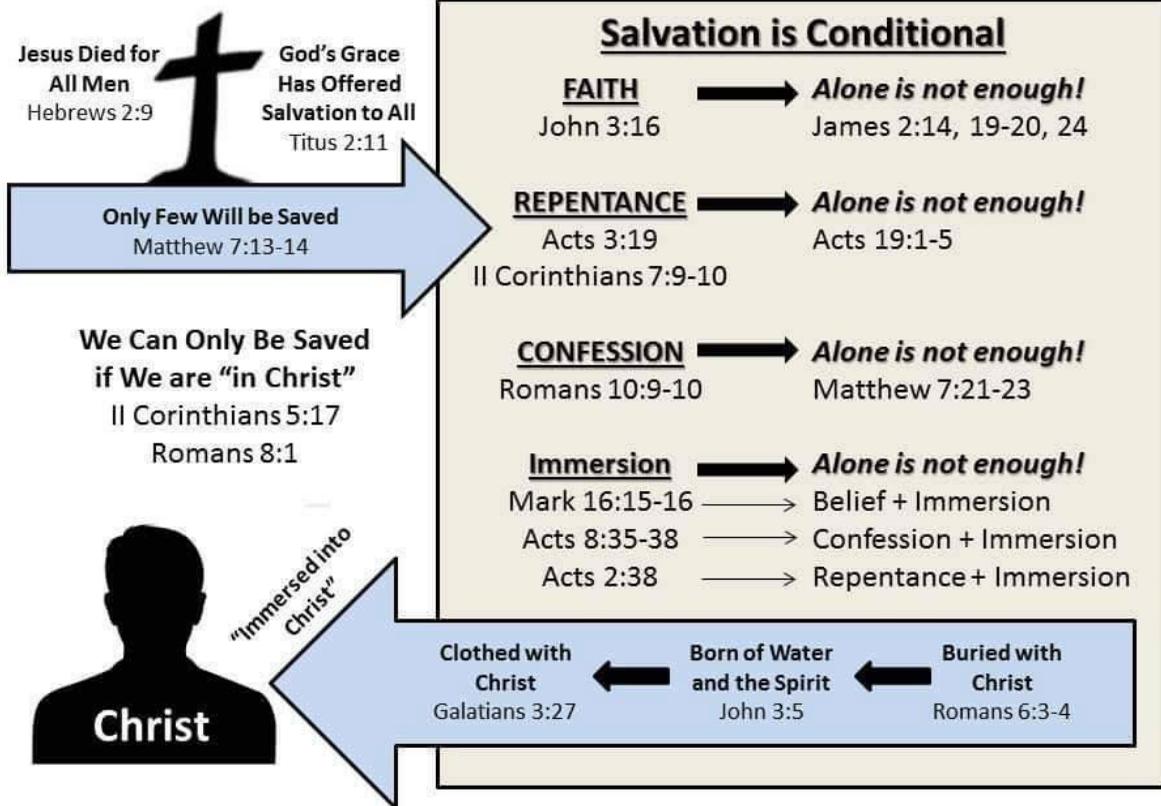
"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path" (Psalm 119:105).

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	18
Sunday AM Worship	23
Sunday PM Worship	18
Wed. Bible Study	18
Offering	\$1316

Know What You Need To Do



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Minister:

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Times of Services:

Sunday
Bible Study:... 10:00am
AM Worship:...11:00am
PM Worship:...6:00pm
2nd Sunday:.....1:30pm

Wednesday
Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program
Sunday:.....7:30am
"Back to the Bible"
AM 580 WSKS
93.5 FM

**We Extend A
Warm & Cordial
Welcome
To All Our
Visitors!**

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Tim Canup

Easter is a major holiday in the religious world, which focuses on the resurrection of Jesus and celebrates that occasion. The Resurrection was a major event without which we would have no hope! However, there is no authority to celebrate it as religious holiday. The Scriptures command us to remember His death by partaking of Lord's Supper every first day of the week (cf. Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 11:24-26). How does Jesus' resurrection fit into scheme of things for a Christian? How does it affect us? How are we to remember it?

THE FACTS OF THE RESURRECTION

Christianity completely hinges on the factuality of the resurrection. There have been many critics and skeptics who have attempted to explain away the resurrection of Christ. Many theories have been advocated; every one adequately answered. Such as the "swoon" theory, which suggests that Christ was not really dead, but appeared to be and was resuscitated three days later.

Consider all that was involved in His death and burial. #1, Death by Crucifixion. The Romans would break the legs of those on the cross to hasten death. Since Christ was found dead already, they pierced His side instead (which would have been the left side through His heart). #2, The Type of Tomb. It would have been a solid rock cave with only one entrance and one exit. #3, The Very Large Stone placed in front, which would have been in the neighborhood of one and a half to two

Continued Inside

tons. #4, The Romans Guards placed before the tomb. #5, The Roman Seal place on it. Matthew 27:65-66 tell us, “Pilate said to them, ‘You have a guard; go your way, make *it* as secure as you know how.’”⁶⁶ So they went & made the tomb secure, sealing the stone & setting the guard.” This would have involved a cord stretched across stone and attached at either side with “sealing clay” & stamped with the signet ring of Roman governor. There was very severe consequences for breaking that seal; most all feared and dared not touch. Yet in all this, the tomb was found empty! In Matthew 28:11f the Bible tells us that the Religious Leaders tried to bribed guards to lie about it.

Also consider the eyewitnesses. Paul’s list of witnesses to resurrected Christ in I Corinthians 15:5-8 are numerous. Throughout book of Acts, the apostles preached Jesus had been raised. In Acts 4:33 we read, “And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus...” Of all circumstances surrounding the death and burial of Christ, the evidence overwhelming that HE IS RISEN! The fact of the resurrection is given in Christian worship, which is on the first day of the week, Sunday. Who changed it? God did! When come together on 1st day... to remember His resurrection.

THE FUNCTION OF THE RESURRECTION

First, the resurrection of Christ serves as proof. The miracles themselves served as evidence (John 20:30-31), but the resurrection was the capstone of all the miracles. In Acts 17:30-31, Paul preached, “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:”³¹ Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance {guarantee} unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” Paul also said in Romans 1:4 that He was “declared to be the Son of God with power...by the resurrection.” The word “declared” means “to decree, to appoint, to designate.” The proof that Jesus is the Christ is forever proved by His resurrection. However, even His own disciples needed further proof. We learn in John 21 that Peter, Thomas, Nathaniel, James and John and two others went fishing. In verse 1, “After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, & in this way He showed Himself.” They again needed that proof.

Second, the resurrection was for our justification/salvation. Paul wrote in Romans 4:25 that Jesus “was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.” The Bible speaks of Jesus’ death/blood as what saves us (cf. Romans 6:9; Revelation 1:5). However, if He has not been raised, then there is no salvation. The facts of the Gospel is that He died, was buried and rose again the third day (I Corinthians 15:1-4). Romans 6:3-6 teaches us that we are to die to our sins and we are buried with Him in

baptism (where blood is applied!) and then God raises us up to walk in newness of life (cf. I Corinthians 6:14; I Peter 3:21; Romans 10:9). There are conditions given in order for the blood to be applied; the resurrection gave His blood the power to save.

THE FINALITY OF THE RESURRECTION

By His death and resurrection, Jesus forever defeated Satan and death. The Hebrews’ writer observed “Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh & blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that thru death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil” (Hebrews 2:14). Although the resurrection is not explicitly mentioned, it is implied, for if He had not been raised, then there would be no hope. By Him we now have power over death. Consider the words of Hebrews 2:15-16: “and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”¹⁶ For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.” Paul wrote: “Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?”¹³ But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen.¹⁴ And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty.¹⁵ Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise.¹⁶ For if *the* dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen.¹⁷ And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins!¹⁸ Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.¹⁹ If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead.²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ... “O Death, where *is* your sting? O Hades, where *is* your victory?”⁵⁶ The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law.⁵⁷ But thanks *be* to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (I Corinthians 15:12-22; 55-57). Jesus told Martha, “Thy brother shall rise again.²⁴ Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.²⁵ Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live” (John 11:23-25). Paul wrote: “Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him” (Romans 6:9).

“” ()).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Oct 31 – Prayer Service after Evening Worship
- Nov 7 – Men’s Business Meeting & Ladies’ Bible Class after Evening Worship
- Nov 14 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Worship Service
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell