**The Promise of The Resurrection**

**by Pastor Fee Soliven**

**John 2:19-21**

**Sunday Morning**

**December 26, 2021**

**John 2:19–21**

19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? 21 But he spoke of the temple of his body.

**1. The First Resurrection**

**Jesus Promised His Resurrection**

Saints, Jesus promised He would rise again. Jesus told the disciples He would be handed over to the Gentiles.

**Matthew 20:18-19**

18 Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, 19 and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again."

Saints, the resurrection promises of Jesus come to students of the

Word in different ways depending on which Gospel one is reading.

For example, in Matthew there is a significant focus on the cost of

discipleship and laying down one’s life.

**Jesus 1st Came as the Suffering Messiah**

**Matthew 16:21-23**

21 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.

22 Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" 23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."

Matthew was helping Jewish readers understand that Jesus was the suffering servant who bore the sins of the world. The resurrection of Jesus is understandable when viewed in light of His crucifixion—

it provides insight to Peter’s sermon in Acts 2 where he described Jesus’ suffering to the gathered Jews. His suffering and subsequent resurrection caused them to confess Him as Lord and Christ. And Jesus prophesied about both His suffering and His resurrection.

**2. Jesus Willingly Laid Down His Life**

**John 10:17-18**

17 Therefore My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18 No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father."

Saints, as Isaiah prophesied some eight hundred years before it happened, Jesus was like a lamb led to slaughter.

**Isaiah 53:7**

“He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth”

Saints, the great love of Jesus was on display at Calvary. No one coerced Him to lay down His life. In the Book of Romans, the apostle Paul drew a clear contrast between Jesus and Adam.

In the Garden, Adam willingly disobeyed and chose his own way with no consideration of others. Adam sought his own advantage, but not so with Jesus.

**Romans 5:18-21**

18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Saints, Jesus had every right to refuse, to withdraw, and to hold back. He knew the sacrifice involved and the pain that was coming His way. Yet He laid down His life willingly:

**Hebrews 12:2**

“For the joy set before him he endured the cross”

**3. Jesus Was Buried in a Borrowed Tomb**

Saints, the story of Jesus laying down His life continued as He died on the cross and then was buried. We are told of a secret disciple named Joseph from the town of Arimathea who came to take the body of Jesus

**Matthew 27:57-61**

57 Now when evening had come, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. 58 This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate commanded the body to be given to him.

59 When Joseph had taken the body, he wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, 60 and laid it in his new tomb which he had hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the door of the tomb, and departed. 61 And Mary Magdalene was there, and the other Mary, sitting opposite the tomb.

Saints, the exact information about Jesus’ burial highlights the authenticity of the gospel. The disciples knew where Jesus had been buried and were willing to tell any who would listen that their Master had died and been buried. Jesus’ burial in Joseph’s tomb fulfilled the prophecy from:

**Isaiah 53:9**

“And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his

death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit

in his mouth.

**4. Jesus Rose from the Dead on the Third Day**

**Slide Chart >**

**Matthew 28:5-6**

5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Saints, an honest evaluation from history proves Jesus rose from the dead. However, it is not the claim that He rose from the dead that troubles sinful humanity; it is what His resurrection from the dead means for all humans that troubles those guided by evil desires.

Jesus’ resurrection means He is Lord of history and King of kings. His resurrection proves He was who He claimed to be. Jesus’ resurrection proves He is to be worshiped and adored. Before Him every knee must bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord.

**Philippians 2:9-11**

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**5. Jesus’ Resurrection Gives Us Hope**

Saints, the resurrection of Jesus is not intended to be an empty exercise in research. The resurrection of Jesus has meaning for each person every day.

**Bill Gaither wrote, “Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.”**

These words highlight the future hope we have because of Jesus’ resurrection. We can face any uncertainty because we know Jesus lives.

Saints, social unrest, global pandemics, and political turmoil all must bow before the King. Followers of Christ know He has the whole world in His hands, and we can trust Him with our future.

**John 11:25-27**

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?" 27 She said to Him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Saints, the resurrection of Jesus means I have hope for this very moment. No sickness, no cancer, no depression, no addiction, and no broken relationship can stop what Jesus has done for me by rising from the dead. We have hope because our Savior lives—today.

**6.** **Resurrection Through the Holy Ghost**

Saints, the response to the gospel that Peter preached in Acts 2 was repentance, baptism in Jesus’ name, and receiving the Holy Ghost. Later Peter and Paul described what this experience had done for those who obeyed and received.

**Acts 2:38-39**

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

**7. From Death to Life by the Holy Ghost**

Saints, Paul wrote in:

**Romans 3:23**

“for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

Later he wrote that before we are filled, we must realize we are dead in trespasses and sins (Ephesians 2:1, 5). The result of sin is death. The spiritual death people live in is real and felt by many. There is no earthly filler for the hole in the heart of humanity. Only Jesus can satisfy our soul. And oh, can He satisfy the longing of the heart.

**Romans 3:24-26**

24 being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

**8. We Can All Experience Resurrection in Our Lives through the Holy Ghost**

Saints, the resurrection life of Jesus is given to us by the Holy Spirit.

**Romans 8:9-11**

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Saints, the Holy Spirit helps us understand that the God’s Spirit brings us from a purely fleshly (selfish) existence to a spiritual one. Those who are filled with the Holy Spirit are “in the Spirit,” not the flesh.

By receiving the Holy Spirit, this transformation takes place. Believers are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise and this guarantees our inheritance in Christ.

**Ephesians 1:13-14**

13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

**9. The Final Resurrection**

**The Same Spirit That Raised Jesus Will Also Raise Us**

**1 Corinthians 15:50-54**

50 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed-- 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

**Because Jesus Rose from the Dead, We Have Hope of Rising**

**to Be with Him in the Final Resurrection**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

13 But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.

15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.

17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore comfort one another with these words.

**Let’s Pray!**

**Benediction**

**"May The LORD bless you and keep you, May The LORD make His face shine upon you, May The LORD be gracious to you, May The LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you His (Shalom) peace.” In Jesus Name!**