

## Three of the Greatest Words in the Bible (2)

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### INTRODUCTION:

A. Three of the greatest words in all the Bible are being celebrated around the world today . . . “He is Risen!” Lesson Text: **Mark 16:1-6** – “Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?"

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away — for it was very large.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. **HE IS RISEN!** He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. ”

B. The three words: “**HE IS RISEN**” is a statement of fact about the Christ and in so doing form three of the greatest words in the Bible

C. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the central fact of Christian history.

1. On it, the church is built; without it, there would be no Lord’s church today.
2. Jesus' resurrection is unique.
3. Other religions have strong ethical systems, concepts about paradise and afterlife, and various writings deemed to be holy. Only Christianity has a God who became human, literally died for his people, and was raised again in power and glory to rule his church forever.

### **WHY IS THE RESURRECTION SO IMPORTANT? It is important for a number of reasons.**

A. **It is important because if Christ was not raised then Gospel Preaching is in vain.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:14** – “And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith is also empty.”
- The preaching of the apostles is empty, meaningless and nothing more than a fairy tale, a story of fiction.
- No true Christian would ever want to knowingly believe something that is wrong.

B. **It is important because if Christ was not raised then our faith is also empty.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:14** – “And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith is also empty.”
- For our faith would be in a lie, a story of make believe, not truth.
- No true Christian would knowingly put their faith in something that is not true.

**C. It is important because if Christ was not raised then the apostles were false witnesses and false teachers.**

- **Acts 2:32** – “This Jesus God raised up of which we are witnesses.””
- There is no way they could have been deceived or mistaken; either they told the truth or they were deliberate liars, deceivers, and frauds!

**D. It is important because if Christ was not raised, then we are still in our sins.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:17** – “And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins!”
- No true Christian wants to remain in their sins. Our hope is in Him that we are forgiven.

**E. It is important because if Christ was not raised, Christians who have died perished at death.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:18** – “Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.”
- Their faith would have been in a false Messiah.
- They would have obeyed a false Messiah
- They would have had no atonement for their sins.

**F. It is important because if Christ has been raised it verifies our Justification before God.**

- **Romans 4:25** – Jesus was “. . . was raised for our justification”

**G. It is important because if Christ has been raised it gives us hope concerning our own resurrection.**

- **1 Corinthians 15:20** - “But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”
- **John 14:19** – “Because I live, ye shall live also.”

**IT IS THROUGH THE RESURRECTION THAT . . . . .**

**A. The deity of Jesus was declared.**

- **Romans 1:4** - "Concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord."

**B. That we have hope.**

- **1 Peter 1:3** - "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."

**C. That He provided light to both Jews and Gentiles.**

- **Acts 26:22-23** - "So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place; that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles."
- We are Gentiles . . . We need that light.

**CONCLUSION:****A. Three of the greatest words in the Bible . . . "HE IS RISEN!"****1. They are words of OBSERVATION**

- a. They have seen Him . . . They had observed Him . . . Their perspective was firsthand.
- b. Jesus came to them in Jerusalem and they went to Him in the Galilee.

**2. They are words of DECLARATION**

- a. Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:1 – "I declare to you the gospel . . . "
- b. The gospel is the death, burial, and the resurrection of Christ.  
1 Corinthians 15:3-4

**3. They are words of AGGRAVATION to the religious leaders.**

The Jewish leaders paid the Roman soldiers to lie about the truth. With His death they thought it was over and done with . . . Concerning the Jewish leaders . . . . .

- a. They wanted Him dead . . . Not alive.
- b. They wanted Him gone . . . Not present.
- c. They wanted Him silent . . . Not speaking.
- d. They wanted Him forgotten . . . Not remembered.
- e. They wanted Him disdained . . . Not worshipped.
- f. They wanted Him in the past . . . Not the present or the future.

**4. They are the words of AFFECTION**

- a. **Mark 16:7** – "But go, tell His disciples — **and Peter** — that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."
- b. Jesus knew what Peter had been going through because of his denial of the Lord.
- c. Jesus wants each of us to know about His resurrection.

**5. They are words of FOUNDATION**

- a. Christianity rises or falls on the basis of the resurrection of Christ.
- b. Anyone who denies or tries to explain away the resurrection of Jesus is an unbeliever and is under the guillotine of divine wrath.

6. They are words of **ASSURANCE**

- a. **John 14:19** – “Because I live, ye shall live also.”
- b. If the grave could not hold Him down, it will not hold my body down, because I am in Him.

B. His resurrection is a proof that

1. He made a full atonement for our sins,
2. His sacrifice was accepted as a satisfaction to divine justice,
3. His blood was a ransom for sinners.
4. It is also a pledge and an earnest of the resurrection of all who obey God

C. No one could keep Jesus in the grave. The religious big shots who wanted him out of the way failed to do it; the power of the Roman army and justice system could not hold him; even the lack of faith on the part of the disciples couldn't keep him dead. They expected to find Jesus when he promised he would not be there. God's power to raise Jesus is greater than any power in the universe. Trust God's promises. He is greater than all our problems or infirmities. The Resurrection assures us that Christ is alive and real and powerful and truthful . . . He did what He said he would do for us. Believe Him . . . Trust Him . . . Obey Him!

D. The Importance of our Lord's resurrection is seen in . . . . .

1. **1 Corinthians 15:1-4** – “Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you — unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.”

2. **Romans 6:3-5** – “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection.”

3. Chart showing Romans 6:3-5 emulated.

E. **God's Plan for man's Salvation**