

## **The Resurrection of Christ**

### **I. The Resurrection is Central to the Gospel: “If Christ has not been raised . . . your faith is in vain”**

- A. The resurrection and Jesus’s priestly work (1 Cor. 15:17-19, Romans 4:24-25)
- B. The resurrection and Jesus’s kingly rule (1 Cor. 15:19-26, Eph. 1:19-23)
- C. The resurrection is the source of our new life and hope (1 Pet. 1:3-5, Rom. 6:10-13, 1 Cor. 15:42-44)

### **II. The Resurrection Fits God’s Promises: “In accordance with the Scriptures”**

- A. Isaiah 53 (esp. vv. 10-12)
- B. Psalm 16:9-11 (compare Acts 2:29-33)
- C. Jesus prophesied his own death and resurrection (Luke 18:31-33)

### **III. Trustworthy Eyewitness Evidence: “He appeared to us”**

- A. The question upon which Christianity stands or falls (as true or false) is a historical question: Did Jesus rise from the dead?
- B. The Apostles claim that Jesus appeared to them, in physical form, after his death.
  - 1. This claim translated into bearing bold witness about Jesus as the Savior who is alive.
  - 2. They all faced suffering and even death for this claim.
  - 3. Many will die for what they believe to be true (even if it might be false), but very few would suffer or die for what they KNEW to be a lie.

### **IV. Conclusion**

- A. Jesus’s resurrection is the lynchpin of his saving work as the Priest and the King that was promised.

“There exists no greater event in redemption history than the resurrection of Christ, because it completes and validates his sacrificial death and advances the program of the kingdom with an eternally living King.”<sup>1</sup>
- B. Hope for those who embrace the good news of Jesus (1 Cor. 15:54-57)
- C. Resurrection hope fuels present service (1 Cor. 15:57-58)

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<sup>1</sup> John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, eds., *Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017), 320–321.

**D. Meditate on the following over the next few weeks:**

Christ's resurrection achieved the following vast and glorious results:<sup>2</sup>

1. The fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies (see "Old Testament Revelation about Christ's Resurrection" [p. 315])
2. The fulfillment of Jesus's own predictions (see "New Testament History of Christ's Resurrection" [p. 318])
3. Confirmation of the Son's deity (Rom. 1:4)
4. The exaltation of the Father, manifesting his perfections (Acts 2:23–24; Rom. 6:4)
5. The perfection of Jesus's obedience to his Father's will (John 10:17–18)
6. Proof that the Father accepted the atoning work of Christ in his sacrificial death on the cross (Rom. 4:25)
7. Provision of regeneration for the elect (1 Pet. 1:3)
8. Assurance that believers will not perish due to their sins (1 Cor. 15:17–18)
9. Securing the justification of believers and assurance that they will never be condemned by God (Rom. 8:1–11, 31–34)
10. Opening the way for Christ to send the Holy Spirit to indwell believers and form them into the church, the body of Christ (John 16:7)
11. Declaration of Christ as the Head of the church and ruler of creation (Eph. 1:19–23; Col. 1:15–19)
12. Establishment of God's pattern of power in spiritually raising believers from spiritual death in their trespasses (Eph. 1:19–20; 2:1–6)
13. Motivation for spiritual living, since believers are already seated with Christ in heaven and assured of being with him in glory (Eph. 2:5–6; Col. 3:1–4)
14. Rendering of mandatory, valid, and fruitful service for Christ (Rom. 7:4; 1 Cor. 15:14, 58)
15. Encouragement to establish the first day of the week for worshiping Christ and serving him in local assemblies (Matt. 28:1; John 20:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2)
16. Establishment of an unshakable foundation for hope (confident expectation) for God to fulfill all his promises (Rom. 8:23–25; 1 Cor. 15:19–20; 1 Pet. 1:3)
17. The guarantee of a future resurrection life for all believers (John 5:26–29; 14:19; Rom. 4:25; 6:5–10; 1 Cor. 15:20, 23)
18. Confirmation of the future fulfillment of the Davidic covenant (Acts 2:29–36; 13:34–37)
19. The guarantee that Christ will judge the world (John 5:24–30; Acts 17:31)
20. The glorification and exaltation of the Son with the glory he once shared with the Father (John 17:5; Phil. 2:8–9; 1 Pet. 1:10–11, 20–21)

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<sup>2</sup> This list is from MacArthur and Mayhue, eds., *Biblical Doctrine: A Systematic Summary of Bible Truth*, 320.