

Resurrection  
Sunday, February 14, 2021

“One of the most obvious missing words in the practice of our faith.”

- \* How do we fit “resurrection” into the Easter Story?
- \* Easter is not just a “Happy Ending” to a sad and dark Holy Week!
- \* Easter is literally THE START of something big! The “new creation!”
- \* Unfortunately, we have as well simply fit Jesus, as a “happy experience” into our lives! Is this simply a story of LIFE AFTER DEATH?

II. We ended with this thought last week:

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NLT)

<sup>3</sup>I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. <sup>4</sup>He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

A. So, our question this week is: What do the scriptures say?  
What scriptures are we speaking of? Where are they?

1. First, let’s remember what Jesus said in the Gospel of John:

John 11:17-26 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup>On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. <sup>18</sup>Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, <sup>19</sup>and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of

their brother. <sup>20</sup> When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home. <sup>21</sup> “Lord,” Martha said to Jesus, “if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup> But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask.” <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha answered, “I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; <sup>26</sup> and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

2. What is Jesus really saying here?
  3. Is He merely talking about “life after death?”
  4. What does He mean when He adds: “...resurrection and life!”
  5. Let’s allow the scripture to answer itself! After all, Paul said it’s just as the scripture says...
- B. The Prophets throughout The Old Testament has MUCH TO SAY ABOUT THIS RESURRECTION!
1. Hosea says that resurrection is “proof of God’s love!”
  2. Isaiah says it's the “key to a new creation!”
  3. Ezekiel says “resurrection is inaugurated by the new creation!”
  4. Daniel says that “resurrection is the culmination of all of human history!” That resurrection is THE POINT!
- C. Resurrection as proof of God’s love to His creation!

Hosea 6:1-3 (NLT)

<sup>1</sup> “Come, let us return to the Lord.

He has torn us to pieces; now he will heal us. He has injured us; now he will bandage our wounds. <sup>2</sup> In just a short time he will restore us, so that we may live in his presence. <sup>3</sup> Oh, that we might know the Lord! Let us press on to know him. He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring.”

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1. This is God’s dealings with Israel and a “prophetic picture” of His work of redemption and resurrection!
2. God explains the reason they need this “raising up after three days!”

Hosea 10:13 (NLT)

13 You have plowed wrong-doing and have gathered sin. You have eaten the fruit of lies. You have trusted in your own strength and in your many soldiers.

3. The issue with resurrection is SIN!

Hosea 7:2 (NLT)

2 They do not think about how I remember all the sinful things they do. Their sins are all around them, and are always before Me.

4. Remember what Paul said:

1 Corinthians 15:4 (NLT)

4 He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

D. Isaiah said resurrection was “the key to new creation”!

Isaiah 25:7-9 (NLT)

<sup>7</sup> There he will remove the cloud of gloom, the shadow of death that hangs over the earth. <sup>8</sup> He will swallow up death forever! The Sovereign Lord will wipe away all tears. He will remove forever all insults and mockery against his land and people. The Lord has spoken. <sup>9</sup> In that day the people will proclaim, “This is our God! We trusted in him, and he saved us! This is the Lord, in whom we trusted. Let us rejoice in the salvation he brings!”

1. Isaiah speaks of this work of resurrection bringing new life, a new way of living and a restoration of all things!
2. Isaiah even gets very specific describing this New Covenant that is yet to come! 700 years from coming!

Isaiah 26:19 (NLT)

19 But those who die in the Lord will live; their bodies will rise again! Those who sleep in the earth will rise up and sing for joy! For your life-giving light will fall like dew on your people in the place of the dead!

3. Isaiah even speaks of this resurrection working from the inside out! Newness of life!
4. Finally, the prophet attaches this work of resurrection to the coming Messiah:

Isaiah 53:2-10 (NLT)

<sup>2</sup> My servant grew up in the Lord's presence like a tender green shoot, like a root in dry ground. There was nothing beautiful or majestic about his appearance, nothing to attract us to him. <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected—a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief. We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care. <sup>4</sup> Yet it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed him down. And we thought his troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for his own sins! <sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed. <sup>6</sup> All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God's paths to follow our own. Yet the Lord laid on him the sins of us all. <sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and treated harshly, yet he never said a word. He was led like a lamb to the slaughter. And as a sheep is silent before the shearers, he did not open his mouth. <sup>8</sup> Unjustly condemned, he was led away. No one cared that he died without descendants, that his life was cut short in midstream. But he was struck down for the rebellion of my people. <sup>9</sup> He had done no wrong and had never deceived anyone. But he was buried like a criminal; he was put in a rich man's grave. <sup>10</sup> But it was the Lord's good plan to crush him and cause him grief. Yet when his life is made an offering for sin, he will have many descendants. He will enjoy a long life, and the Lord's good plan will prosper in his hands.

E. Ezekiel explains how RESURRECTION “inaugurated the New Covenant!”

1. Ezekiel brings even more specifics to this incredible work of RESURRECTION!

Ezekiel 36:26 (NLT)

26 And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive heart.

2. It is clearly revealed that God's intended purpose is that of...

—————CHANGE————— !

3. A “heart of stone” signifies a dead heart, unable to be sensitive to the Lord!
4. A “heart of flesh” is a heart sensitive to the ways of the Lord and one that is...alive!
5. Then Ezekiel describes it this way:

Ezekiel 37:3-5, 10 (NLT)

3 Then he asked me, “Son of man, can these bones become living people again? “O Sovereign Lord,” I replied, “you alone know the answer to that.”

4 Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to these bones and say, ‘Dry bones, listen to the word of the Lord! 5 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Look! I am going to put breath into you and make you live again! 10 So I spoke the message as he commanded me, and breath came into their bodies. They all came to life and stood up on their feet—a great army.

F. Daniel describes “resurrection” as the culmination of  
HUMAN HISTORY!

Daniel 7:13-14 (NLT)

13 As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man[a] coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

1. If we read, study and pay attention to the scriptures, we will see a cohesive story of our redemption throughout The

Bible!

2. Doesn't these words of Ezekiel sound like Matt. 28:18?

“Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.”

3. Or maybe in Isaiah 9:7!

7 “Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.”