

Resurrection
“The Church Needs to *Breathe*”
Sunday, March 21, 2021

Recap some from Jimmy:

- Resurrection is one of the most obvious missing words in the practice of our faith.
- Resurrection is established and explained to us in the Scriptures.
- Resurrection means “a standing up.” The fall knocked us down, and Christ sets us back up.
- Resurrection is the cornerstone of our hope — it sets our hope in faith.
- Easter isn’t just a happy ending to a sad Holy Week, but the START of the New Creation. It is how we experience the New Creation.
- The Biblical message of resurrection is that the “project of restoration has begun!”
- Resurrection is about NOW, not the end of our lives.

Genesis 1:2 (NLT)

2 The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.
- Spirit —> ruakh —> wind, breath, spirit

Genesis 2:4-7 (NLT)

4 This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth. When the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, **5** neither wild plants nor grains were growing on the earth. For the Lord God had not yet sent rain to water the earth, and there were no people to cultivate the soil. **6** Instead, springs came up from the ground and watered all the land. **7** Then the Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person.

Genesis 2:7 (AMP)

7 then the Lord God formed [that is, created the body of] man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being [an individual complete in body and spirit].

Ezekiel 37:1-13 (NLT)

The Lord took hold of me, and I was carried away by the Spirit of the Lord to a valley filled with bones. **2** He led me all around among the bones that covered the valley floor. They were scattered everywhere across the ground and were completely dried out. **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! **6** I will put flesh and muscles on you and cover you with skin. I will put breath into you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the Lord.’” **7** So I spoke this message, just as he told me. Suddenly as I spoke, there was a rattling noise all across the valley. The bones of each body came together and attached themselves as complete skeletons. **8** Then as I watched, muscles and flesh formed over the bones. Then skin formed to cover their bodies, but they still had no *breath* in them. **9** Then he said to me, “Speak a prophetic message to the winds, son of man. Speak a prophetic message and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so they may 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. **11** Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones represent the people of Israel. They are saying, ‘We have become old, dry bones—all hope is gone. Our nation is finished.’ **12** Therefore, prophesy to them and say, ‘This is what the Sovereign Lord says: O my people, I will open your graves of exile and cause you to rise again. Then I will bring you back to the land of Israel. **13** When this happens, O my people, you will know that I am the Lord. **14** I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live again and return home to your own land. Then you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done what I said. Yes, the Lord has spoken!

John 20:19-20 (NLT)

19 That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them! “Peace be with you,” he said. **20** As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! **21** Again he said, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you.” **22** Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

A.W. Tozer:

“One hundred religious persons knit into a unity by careful organization do not constitute a church any more than eleven dead men make a football team.” “If the Holy Spirit was withdrawn from the church today, 95 percent of what we do would go on and no one would know the difference. If the Holy Spirit had been withdrawn from the New Testament church, 95 percent of what they did would stop, and everybody would know the difference.”