

<p><b>Introduction:</b> The Bible isn't silent on the resurrection of Jesus and the future resurrection of the redeemed. Matthew 16:21, "From that time Jesus began to show 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 up on the third day." The second time we find this in Matthew 17:22 "And while they were gathering together in Galilee, Jesus said to them, The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men; and they will kill Him, and He will be raised on the third day. And they were deeply grieved." Matthew 20:17-19 "As Jesus was about to go up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside by themselves, and on the way He said to them, behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify Him, and on the third day He will be raised up." In our text today, Jesus makes this statement that "He is the resurrection" and this affirms His sovereignty over death. He makes alive.</p>			
<p>Other key metaphors to the resurrection, cf. Matthew 12:38-40; John 2:18-22, John 10:17-18; Luke 24:44-46 as He spoke post resurrection and opened the mind of those to understand.</p>	<p>The third prediction and more detailed as they headed to Jerusalem, Mark 10:32-34 "They were on the road going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking on ahead of them; and they were amazed, and those who followed were fearful. And again He took the twelve aside and began to tell them what was going to happen to Him, saying, behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and will hand Him over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him and spit on Him, and scourge Him and kill Him, and three days later He will rise again."</p>	<p><b>Application:</b> Christians know the resurrection is not just a happy ending, Romans 1:4a "Who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead." What does this mean for us today? What future hope does this bring us today?</p>	
<p>Let's look at John 11:17-27. Jesus arrives at Bethany, and Lazarus has been dead for four days. This signifies the finality of death. Many gathered to comfort Mary and Martha. We find Martha greets Jesus with grief and faith mixed together, cf. vs. 21. Often we say "if" we had gone to the dr. sooner or just waited, something would not have happened. Martha knew and believed in a future resurrection. But what she was about to learn was so much more.</p>		<p><b>Pt. 1</b> - Jesus Responds: He affirms that "He" is the resurrection and the life. Because He is the resurrection, He can raise Lazarus from the dead right now, and He will do it, cf. John 11:38-46. People believed the resurrection would come in that day, but the fact that he had been dead four days now further proved this miracle of who is the resurrection. The point is made "there will be a stench." <b>(A)</b> Imagine Lazarus having to come back? <b>(B)</b> The man who "had died came forth."</p>	
<p><b>Pt. 2</b> - Jesus was physically and bodily resurrected. <b>(A)</b> He wasn't a ghost or some image; he ate and drank and could be touched, John 20:27 "Reach here your hand and put it into my side."</p>	<p><b>(B)</b> Just as Adam was our federal head in the fall, Christ is the new head. His resurrection marks the definitive defeat of death for all who are in Him. For us today as believers, we affirm that "I am the resurrection and the life."</p>	<p><b>(C)</b> There will be a resurrection of the body in the future. John 5:28-29 "Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment."</p>	<p><b>(D)</b> Martha rightly interpreted Jesus' promise that her brother would rise again at the general resurrection. The one who believes in Christ has eternal life that transcends physical death, cf. John 11:25-26. Those who live and believe will never die but will make an instant transition from the old life to the new life, cf. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.</p>
<p><b>Pt. 3</b> - What does the resurrection mean for us in hope and future? 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 gives us the reason the resurrection is still evident in our lives and redemption today. <b>(A)</b> How come you don't believe or say there's no resurrection of the dead, cf. vs. 1. <b>(B)</b> If there is no resurrection, then Christ isn't even raised, cf. vs. 13. <b>(C)</b> The results of no resurrection, preaching is worthless (vain), and your faith is vain and worthless, cf. 14. <b>(D)</b> We are violators of the law of God if we claim He is raised and is not, cf. vs. 15. <b>(E)</b> If there's no resurrection of the dead, then Christ isn't even raised, cf. vs. 16. <b>(F)</b> If He isn't raised, our faith is worthless and we're still in our sins. There's no forgiveness, not atonement. And those who have died have perished, no resurrection, vs. 17-18. <b>(G)</b> If our hope was in this life only, the best is now, what a miserable and awful outlook that is, cf. vs. 19.</p>			
<p><b>Pt. 4</b> - The doctrinal significance of the resurrection. Jesus' resurrection assures our regeneration, 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." Jesus earned a resurrection life for us, yet while we remain in a fleshly body, our spirit is made alive with resurrection power, because He says "I am the resurrection and the life."</p>		<p><b>(A)</b> Ephesians 2:5-6 "Even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus." God sees us as being raised with Christ and thus we have the merits of His resurrection. The verbs in vs. 6 "raised" and "seated" imply a work of God and not man.</p>	
<p><b>(B)</b> This is why Paul argues that his goal in life, according to Philippians 3:10, "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." How can one suffer and press on because he knows the power of His resurrection? He's a new man. Paul knew that even in this life, the resurrection of Christ gives power to the ministry he was in and obedience to God. <b>(C)</b> The resurrection of Christ is an affirmation of the work of the Spirit in our life, Romans 6:4, "Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." Furthermore, Romans 6:11, "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus." How can you be dead and now alive? You cannot raise yourself from the dead? You didn't decide to turn over a new leaf. It is the power of His resurrection. He has resurrected your dead spiritual life to Himself to live again. Now you can say no to sin and disobedience, as before you were slaves to that.</p>			
<p><b>Conclusion:</b> Jesus is the resurrection, not only having been resurrected from the dead Himself, He is. Why does this matter? He has power over death. John 11:26 states that if a man believes in Jesus, he will live, even if he dies. This life isn't it. We don't just go away. This belief means that death is defeated by the resurrection and atonement of Christ. <b>(A)</b> Even if I die, physically, I live. Why? Because of the resurrection of Christ. He proved it by calling Lazarus out. <b>(B)</b> We will never die spiritually either, vs. 26, cf. 1 Corinthians 15:50-58.</p>		<p><b>(C)</b> For the one who believes that He is the resurrection and the life, there's no more penalty left to pay for sins; they have been atoned for by Christ on the cross and in the resurrection. No more wrath of God. No more guilt remains. No more liability or punishment. It has been completely paid for, and God sees us as He sees the atonement of Christ. Romans 4:25 "He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification." He was raised because we were justified!</p>	
<p>Now I ask this today as Jesus asked Martha, do you believe this? Not acknowledge a few facts, but do you believe this? It's not a bunny or eggs or baskets or candy or pretty colors and flowers. It's resurrection day. It's the day He became the resurrection and the life, do you believe this?</p>			