



THIS JESUS GOD RAISED UP, AND OF THAT WE ARE ALL WITNESSES

JOHN 20

The most foundational doctrine of all;

1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-19

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

Scripture's call to use our powers of reason;

ISAIAH 1:18

Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.

MATTHEW 6:28

And why are you anxious about clothing? *Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow:* they neither toil nor spin,

ACTS 17:2

And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days *he reasoned with them from the Scriptures,*

ACTS 26:25

But Paul said, "I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but *I am speaking true and rational words.*"

God's sovereign and wise plan for the assurance of the resurrection;

ACTS 2:32

This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

The apostolic defense of the resurrection;

LUKE 22:56-57

Then a servant girl, seeing him as he sat in the light and looking closely at him, said, "This man also was with him." But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him."

ACTS 2:23

...this Jesus...you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.

ACTS 5:40-41

When they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.

Two kinds of unbelief;

1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-7

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I

delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

For all people: The resurrection is assurance of coming judgment

ACTS 17:30-31

“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; *and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.*”

For all believers: The resurrection is assurance that:

1. *The substitutionary sacrifice of Christ on behalf of His people was effectual and accepted by the Father, and as a result, His promise of salvation to His people can be trusted*

ROMANS 4:24-25

...It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

ROMANS 10:9

If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and *believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.*

2. *Believers in Christ will inherit eternal life*

JOHN 11:25-26

Jesus said to her, *“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”*

JOHN 14:19

Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. *Because I live, you also will live.*

3. *Jesus advocates for His people before the Father even now*

ROMANS 8:34

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—*who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.*

HEBREWS 7:25

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, *since he always lives to make intercession for them.*

4. *His people experience Christ’s presence and power today*

MATTHEW 28:20

[The risen Christ declares] “Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

5. *Our Redeemer-King will assuredly return for His people*

ACTS 1:10-11

And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? *This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.*”

6. *Believers will experience a glorious physical existence for eternity*

PHILIPPIANS 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, *who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body*, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

7. *Loved ones in Christ are not lost to us*

1 THESSALONIANS 4:14-15

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep.

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