

Apr 05, 2015



Oaks Early Risers Bible Class

The Oaks
Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

Lesson Leaders:

James Haymon
Jose Cisneros

Class Leaders:

Inreach: Pat Hester
Outreach: Joyce Kirkland
Secretary: Mary Clark
Deacon: C M Hester

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:
Christ's resurrection assures what Calvary secures

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:
Although our Lord was crucified, He rose up from the grave; He paid our penalty for sin, Then showed His power to save. — Sper

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:
I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death.

(Rev 1:18 NKJV)

(From "Our Daily Bread", Apr 20, 2003)

Series: THE SPIRIT COMES

UNIT: The Community of Beloved Disciples

NEXT WEEK

Love One Another
(1 John 3:11-24)

Believe in the Resurrection

1 Cor 15:1-11, 20-22

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson examines why people should **Believe in the Resurrection**. The **study's aim** is to accept and understand the evidence for and guarantee of Jesus' resurrection and that our resurrection is totally dependent on that of Jesus'. The **study's application** is to believe in the resurrected Jesus Christ for eternal life.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

When Jesus spoke of His sacrificial death on the cross of Calvary, He always spoke of His resurrection as well. The enemies of our Lord knew this, and from the day of His resurrection attempted to pass it off as a deception perpetrated by His followers (Matthew 27:62-66; 28:11-15). Paul wants his readers to remember that the resurrection is based upon the most irrefutable evidence possible—the eyewitness testimony of over 500 people on various occasions and over a period of time. Paul does not appeal to circumstantial evidence to prove the resurrection of Christ from the dead but rather to the testimony of more than 500 eyewitnesses, most of whom are still alive at the time he writes this Epistle to the Corinthians. Few facts in history have been so well attested. The Corinthians should be reminded of the firm basis which the resurrection of our Lord has in history. Luke, the great historian, sums it up in these words: "To these He also presented Himself alive, after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days, and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God" (Acts 1:3).

The resurrection is a matter of great import to the apostle Paul. Few men can claim to have been more impacted by the resurrection of our Lord than Paul. First, the resurrection of our Lord was the means by which Paul was converted from an enemy of Christ to a true believer. Three times in the Book of Acts (chapters 9, 22, and 26) Paul's conversion experience on the road to Damascus is reported. This appearance of the risen and glorified Christ blinded Paul, stopping him in his tracks, and led to his conversion. No wonder Paul saw the resurrection of our Lord as such a significant event. It turned Paul's life upside-down. The resurrection was important to Paul in yet another way—the resurrection appearance of our Lord to Paul on the road to Damascus was the means by which Paul was qualified to be an apostle of Jesus Christ. You will recall that Judas, the disciple who betrayed our Lord, killed himself, leaving a vacancy among the apostles (see Matthew 19:28; Acts 1:15-26). The disciples chose not to wait for "what the Father had promised" (Acts 1:4) and went ahead to select two men who seemed qualified as candidates to take the place of Judas (Acts 1:12-26). It is my opinion that it was not Matthias whom God had appointed to this position, but Paul. I believe Paul's words in our text (15:7-11) indicate that he was appointed as the replacement for Judas. Who would have ever imagined such a thing? The apostles were those whose task it was to be witnesses of our Lord's resurrection (Acts 1:22; 2:32). How could Paul (or anyone else who had not been with the eleven disciples) possibly qualify? What seemed humanly impossible was possible with God. He arranged a private resurrection appearance for Paul. It was as a result of our Lord's post-resurrection appearance to Paul on the road to Damascus that Paul was qualified to be an apostle. Just how important was the resurrection of our Lord to Paul? It was not only the basis for his salvation and apostleship, it was a constant theme in his preaching (Acts 17:30-31; 24:15, 25). It was the reason for Paul's imprisonment and trial before Caesar (Acts 23:6; 24:21; 26:6-8; 28:20). No wonder Paul is so emphatic about the resurrection of our Lord and about the error of those who say there is no resurrection of the dead. The gospel is the starting point and standard for all Christian teaching and practice. Paul takes us back to our origins to reinforce the vital role which the resurrection of our Lord plays in our salvation and Christian life.

(Adapted from "A Refresher Course on the Resurrection of the Dead" by Bob Deffinbaugh)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

THE GOSPEL AND JESUS' RESURRECTION (1 COR 15:1-4)

What is the Gospel (1)

The gospel is the good news that Jesus died for us (1 Peter 3:18)

The gospel is the good news that Jesus was buried for a short while (Luke 23:52-54)

The gospel is the good news that Jesus has risen by resurrection (Matt 28:5-6)

The gospel is revealed to man through the Holy Spirit (1 Peter 1:12)

The gospel is all about righteousness and faith (Rom 1:17)

The gospel was written to teach and provide hope (Rom 15:4)

The Gospel leads to salvation (2)

Salvation through accepting the good news (Rom 10:16-17)

Salvation through the power of the message of the cross (1 Cor 1:18)

Salvation through the truth of the gospel (Col 1:5-6)

Salvation through the power of the Holy Spirit (1 Thess 1:5-7)

Salvation through the light of the gospel (2 Cor 4:3-5)

Elements of the Gospel (3-4)

Birth of Jesus

Birth where God came in the flesh (Isa 40:9)

Birth of the Son of God (John 3:16)

Birth of a Savior of the world (1 John 4:14)

Birth of Jesus who has the government on His shoulders (Isa 9:6)

Birth of Jesus through a virgin was a sign of His divinity (Isa 7:14)

Sacrificial death of Jesus

Jesus' death had to be fulfilled (John 18:32)

Jesus had to die for everyone (Heb 2:9)

Jesus' death was prophesized (Acts 26:22-23)

Jesus' death provided reconciliation (Rom 5:10)

Resurrection of Jesus

Resurrection witnessed by many (Acts 2:32)

Resurrection that saints will be united with (Rom 6:5)

Resurrection by the power of God (Acts 2:23-24; Ps 16:9-10)

Resurrection that saves (1 Peter 3:18-22)

THE EVIDENCE OF JESUS' RESURRECTION (1 COR 15:5-11)

Evidence through appearances that makes it a reality (5-8)

Reality that leads to the goal of our faith (Phil 3:10-11)

Reality that is an essential doctrine (Heb 6:1-3)

Reality because it is a trustworthy truth (2 Tim 2:11)

Reality because Jesus promised the taking away of the saints (Luke 17:34-35)

Reality that brings salvation (Heb 9:28)

Evidence through grace (9-10)

Grace that is sufficient (2 Cor 12:9)

Grace through God's will and pleasure (Eph 1:5-6)

Grace through mercy (1 Tim 1:13-14)

Grace through justification (Titus 3:3-7)

Grace that results in blessing after blessing (John 1:16)

Evidence through belief (11)

Belief that Jesus is the Christ, Son of the living God (Matt 16:15-16)

Belief that God exists and having faith in Him (Heb 11:6)

Belief that Jesus is God in the flesh (Col 2:9)

Belief in Jesus being the resurrection (John 11:25-26)

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS OF JESUS' RESURRECTION (1 COR 15:20-22)

Implications of the Christian resurrection (20)

Implication of the resurrection is that it brings light to God's people (Acts 26:23)

Implication of the resurrection is life to our mortal bodies (Rom 8:11)

Implication of the resurrection is Jesus supremacy in everything (Col 1:18)

Implication of the resurrection is a new hope for us (1 Peter 1:3) - *Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*

Implications of the power of Jesus' resurrection (21)

Resurrection power for those who believe (Eph 1:19-20)

Resurrection power that leads to a new life (Rom 6:4)

Resurrection power that will be manifested by believers being raised (1 Cor 6:14)

Resurrection power that presents the believer into God's presence (2 Cor 4:14)

Resurrection power that transforms our bodies into a glorious body (Phil 3:21)

Implications of eternal life (22)

Eternal life given through grace (Rom 5:21)

Eternal life given as a gift of God (Rom 6:23)

Eternal life given to display unlimited patience (1 Tim 1:16)

Eternal life given through truth and understanding (1 John 5:20)

Eternal life given through mercy (Jude 1:21)