**The Astonishing Resurrection of Jesus**

***Matthew 27:57-28:20***

The resurrection of Jesus is . . . miraculous, promised, surprising, public, resisted, destructive, consoling, verifying, life-giving, life-changing, and astonishing.

**Main Idea: The Christian’s entire life rests upon the Jesus’ real bodily resurrection from the dead. What we learn from the Resurrection protects us in the spiritual battle and brings strength to our daily life.**

**Lesson #1: The Darkness of Unbelief**

Truth: When unbelief operates in the human heart, no amount of truth or facts will move our heart to faith.

Truth: Unbelief is the greatest danger to our eternal soul.

Truth: Unbelief is fueled by fear, by self-rule and by worldly lusts.

Principle: Spiritual darkness uses fear, our pride and lust to suppress any amount of evidence that God provides to prove that Jesus is the Messiah.

*“Then some . . . Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” (Matthew 12:38–40 ESV)*

**Lesson #2: The Frailty of the Heart**

Truth: Remember that the very best among us are frail in heart.

*“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy,* ***he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead****, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,.” (1 Peter 1:3–4 ESV)*

*“And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.” (Acts 4:33* [*ESV*](https://accordance.bible/link/read/ESVS#Acts_4:33)*)*

**Lesson #3: The Power of God**

Four precious gifts that flow from Jesus’ bodily resurrection:

Precious Gift #1: Because Jesus rose from the grave all His promises are guaranteed.

“For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.” (2 Corinthians 1:20 ESV)

Precious Gift #2: Because Jesus rose from the dead, all who are in Him will also rise from the dead.

“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 11:25–26 ESV)

Precious Gift #3: Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have a living Savior who intercedes for us before the Father.

“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.” (Romans 8:34 ESV)

“but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. 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.”(Hebrews 7:24–25 ESV)

Precious Gift #4: Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have power to live a godly life.

“We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him . . . so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin.” (Romans 6:4–6 ESV)

**Lesson #4: The Reward of Faith**

 *“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 11:25* [*ESV*](https://accordance.bible/link/read/ESVS#John_11:25)*)*

*Therefore do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that 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 11:25-26* [*ESV*](https://accordance.bible/link/read/ESVS)*)*

*when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. For, “Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.”” (Hebrews 10:35-38* [*ESV*](https://accordance.bible/link/read/ESVS#Heb._10:35)*)*