

# Christ's Resurrection

It's something I take for granted but can't afford. It's something easy to preach around, but all other topics are void without it. It's something that can be discussed intellectually in defense of the Bible. Still, its reality means salvation for all those who believe. It defeats Satan. It is the ultimate hope. I had the pleasure of meeting a professor of apologetics a few years ago. He said he wasn't interested anymore because it distracted him from the heart of the gospel, in particular, Jesus' resurrection.

There's nothing wrong with discussing fulfilled prophecies of Jesus' death and resurrection from an intellectual point of view. There's nothing wrong with asking questions such as, "What drove so many people 2,000 years ago to give their life for Jesus? What turned Paul's life around? Why write material that makes everyone look so bad? It all has its time and place, but most of our attention needs to center on the message so our hearts point toward God. The message is meant to result in praise towards God and an anticipation and desire to be with Him for all eternity.

With that, I begin with a Psalm from a man who cherished his relationship with the God who was his everything - the God who would preserve his life. A man who cherished the presence of Jehovah above all. I'd like you to join me in drawing encouragement from the faith of others, the power of the Spirit, the promise of our Father, and the victory in Jesus.

## **Psalm 16 Preserve Me**

- Let's get beyond David's role as King. Let's even ignore God's promise through Nathan in 2 Samuel (though it finds fulfillment in Jesus).
- What do you see in David? We talk about getting so busy that we forget to stop and smell the flowers. We can also get distracted by the intellectual candy in the passages, if you will, and fail to glean the obvious picture.
- Do you have what David did? Is your picture of God the same? Is your heart's desire the same?
- What if this life was your only shot at knowing God? What if there was no eternity? What if a home with God was never promised? Does this version satisfy you? Are you content as knowing God at a distance? Let's admit - full salvation has yet to be realized.

## **Acts 2:22-39 The Guiding Spirit**

- I'm reminding you that God made a promise and accomplished it through the Spirit and Jesus.
- I'm reminding you that we do not have blind faith. God proved Himself faithful in power, particularly in the resurrection of Jesus.
- I'm reminding you that, like David, we've all sinned and fallen short of God's glory without Christ's death. Yet, there's a way to be reconciled to God through Jesus' sacrifice.

### **Psalm 110 The Promise of Jehovah**

- Here, we read of God's chosen servant. Seen as a military leader and priest.
- His territory expands, and He lifts His head in victory over His enemies.

### **1 Corinthians 15:1-28, 50-58 The Victory of Jesus**

- There is no power in His death if there is no resurrection.
- There is no point if there is no resurrection.
- There is no forgiveness if there is no resurrection.
- There is no glory in life if our time is limited.
- There is no limit to our time, brethren.
- That time will be spent with God and His creation.
- There is only victory in Jesus' resurrection.