

Resurrection Sunday

1 Corinthians 15:1-8 (NASB)

15 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; ⁸ and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

- 1. The resurrection has many beautiful angles and every dimension is worth contemplating**
- 2. When speaking of The Resurrection, it's NOT an event, the Resurrection is a person - JESUS**
- 3. From this passage, 2 things stand out**

I. Prophecy Clarified

II. Hope Personified

I. Prophecy Clarified

1. A prophecy speaks of things that will happen in the future
 - a. God delights in sharing what will happen in the future with His people
 - i. He wants us to be clear on the upcoming events
 - ii. Will I hide anything from my servant Abraham?
 - b. Jesus' life, death and Resurrection are mentioned in the O.T

- c. I.E. **Psalm 22**, they pierced my hands and my feet
 - i. When crucifixion wasn't invented yet
- d. **Psalm 69** speaks of the vinegar Jesus would be offered on the Cross
- e. Isaiah 50 tells that they would pluck His beard and spit on Him
- f. **Isaiah 52 & 53** tell of how He would be beaten, bruised for our iniquity
- g. **Isaiah 53:5** But He *was* wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed
- h. **Isaiah 53:9** His grave was assigned with wicked men,
Yet He was with a rich man in His death,
Because He had done no violence,
Nor was there any deceit in His mouth.

2. **Of His Resurrection**

- a. **Psalm 16:10** For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption
- b. **Mark 8:31** [Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again
- c. So these prophecies are speaking of Him

3. Along with these scriptures, there are symbols and stories

4. A symbol of the Resurrection is seen in the law...

5. When a person was cleansed of leprosy, the priest would take two birds,

- a. One of which would be killed over running water and placed in an earthen jar.
 - b. The second bird, along with cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop, would be dipped into the blood of the first bird and then released (Lev 14)
 - c. Jesus is the living (running) water (John 4:10)
 - d. The wood speaks of the Cross;
 - e. scarlet of His blood,
 - f. As the living bird, sprinkled with the blood of the sacrificial bird, soared back into the sky, the picture of Resurrection was complete
 - g. The symbol that the offering was accepted is the living bird
6. **Stories:** For three days and nights, Jonah was in the belly of the great fish
- a. After 3 days, he was “resurrected” onto dry land (Jonah 2:10)
 - b. Which happened after Jonah prayed
 - c. The proof that his prayer was heard was that he was resurrected onto dry land
 - d. **Matthew 12:40** For as Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights
7. A famous story of Abraham offering Isaac
- a. Isaac was a miracle baby and his mom was 90 yrs old
 - b. Jesus was a miracle baby who’s mom was a young woman who was a virgin
8. “Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you

9. Abraham carried fire and a knife while Isaac carried the wood
 - a. Just as Jesus carried His Cross
10. They went on a 3 day journey together
 - a. Just as the Father and Son went on a 3 year journey together
11. Together, they set out for **Moriah - Chosen by God**
12. Mt. Moriah is today called Calvary
 - a. The very spot Abraham was ready to offer his son, Isaac, is the spot God did, indeed, offer His only Son, Jesus Christ.
13. Abraham said to the two servants who accompanied them, "You stay here. My son and I will go up and worship and we will come again to you."
 - a. As Jesus was crucified between two thieves, Isaac walked with two servants.
14. When Abraham and Isaac reached the top of the mountain, Isaac said, "Here's the wood. There's the fire. But where's the sacrifice?"
15. And Abraham looked at his son and said, "God will provide Himself a lamb" (Genesis 22:8).
 - a. Not, "God will provide a lamb for Himself," but, "God will provide Himself a lamb."
 - b. He will be the Lamb.
16. As Abraham was ready to put a knife through his son, a spear pierced the Son of God. (Courson)
17. Isaac is not mentioned on the way down the mountain
 - a. Picturing how Jesus ascended going to prepare a place for us

- b. Later in Ch. 22, Rebecca is mentioned in Vs. 23 who is the bride
- c. She's birthed after these things...

18. That is prophecy clarified

II. Hope Personified

1. If Jesus didn't rise, then our faith is in vain and we are lost in our sins
 - a. **Without the resurrection, our faith is empty and void**
2. **John 11:25**, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believes in Me though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never die"
3. Now through the Resurrection, our hope is personified
4. **With respect to our friend Jonah**
 - a. Hope is personified in the mercy of God
 - i. Jonah should have been lunch or a snack
 - ii. God's mercies are renewed every morning
 - iii. **Psalm 103:17** But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him...
 1. Jonah 2:2 as Jonah prayed:
 - a. God listened
 - b. God answered
 - c. God brought my life out of the pit
 - iv. **Titus 3:5** He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit

- v. Even on the most stubborn among us who are refusing God's will
- vi. Although we may have given up on the idea of ministry, God has not
- vii. The Resurrection is our hope in the living God
 - 1. That He has mercy on us and does not give up
 - 2. That gives us hope

5. **With respect to Abraham and Isaac**

- a. Abraham didn't know the story as we know it
- b. **Heb 11:17** By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son; 18 it was he to whom it was said, "In Isaac your descendants shall be called." 19 He considered that God is able to raise people even from the dead, from which he also received him back as a type
- c. Hope is personified in the substitute that was found on the mountain
- d. Where is the sacrifice?
- e. God will provide Himself the sacrifice
- f. Just as they found the Ram caught by its horns
 - i. There was a humble Lamb who opened not His mouth
- g. He freely offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice
- h. And the Resurrection is the evidence to us that God the Father has accepted that sacrifice

6. **1 Peter 1:3** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead
 - a. We are now free

7. Our hope is in One person, Who is the Merciful Substitute
 - a. **His name is JESUS**