

**Resurrection Power**  
**Eph. 3:14-21**

**Mt. 28:1-10** - *Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you." So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me."*

**Phil. 3:10-11** - *I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!*

This morning I would like to talk about the resurrection power of God that is at work in our lives. The resurrection of Jesus was a spectacular event that happened over 2000 years ago, but it still has power for today. Christ wants us to live in resurrection power each and every day. I want to encourage you to live, pray and trust in the power of His resurrection and the benefits we get from it.

The resurrection of Christ is one of the central points of Christianity, Paul tells us, that if Christ had not risen from the dead our religion would be in vain. The resurrection of Jesus was a powerful event that changed the course of history, but we need to see how the resurrection impacts our lives, what does it mean for us today?

**First of all, the resurrection of Jesus Christ proclaims the Power of God!**

Everyone, including the disciples and his mother thought he was dead. In **Luke 24:5-6a** we read, "*And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen."*

God's message to mankind is clear: Soldiers, seals, and stones can never stop the plan of God. God marches on and his plans will be accomplished. We believe that because the tomb is empty and because Jesus is alive. Because of the Resurrection Jesus in **Mt. 28:18** could say, "*All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*"

When commanded to stop preaching the gospel of Jesus, Peter and John answered in **Acts 4:19-20**, "*But Peter and John replied, "Do you think God wants us to obey you rather than him? We cannot stop talking about everything we have seen and heard."* Because of the Power of God Peter and John could talk boldly before the Sanhedrin. Paul in **Phil. 4:12-13** says, "*I know how to live on almost nothing or with everything. I have learned the secret of living in every*

*situation, whether it is with a full stomach or empty, with plenty or little. For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”*

Brethren, we live by the power of God in this world. He proved his power at the resurrection of Jesus and this power is still at work in us who love the Lord.

The Power that created and sustains this world is also the power of God that sustains us through all temptations and trails. If God is for us, who can be against us (**Romans 8:31**). Listen to the rest of this thought - *What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.*

Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ, that same power that raised Him from the dead, is at work in us and for us. Paul put it this way in **Romans 8:11** *“And Christ lives within you, so even though your body will die because of sin, the Spirit gives you life because you have been made right with God. The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.”* God can turn any situation around, trust in Him.

**Second, because of the resurrection of Jesus, the way we think about life and death has change.**

*Jesus talked about death as a wedding* – He is the bridegroom waiting to take us home, that where He is we might be there also. There will be joy and happiness and fellowship.

*Death is like going home*: And the end of our life, like the end of each day, we look forward to going home – where we feel love, warmth, and where we can relax and be with family. (Be it ever so humble, we say, there is no place like home.)

*Death is like a graduation*: we have graduated from death to life, from darkness to light, from tears to joy!

There are also some blessings we get because of the resurrection: **1)** because of the resurrection we are pardoned – our sins have been forgiven. **2)** because of the resurrection we can now live-in peace. **Jn. 14:27** *“I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So, don't be troubled or afraid.”*

**3)** because of the resurrection we have purity – **Romans 6:22-23** *“But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

**4)** the last blessing, I would like to mention is His presence. In **Mt. 28: 20b** *“And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

God's resurrection power, love, joy and peace are yours in Christ Jesus.

God wants us to experience His resurrection power:

**First, experience its converting power.**

Man has a problem – the problem is sin (disobedience to God). Sin separates us from God, and nothing we, in our own power, can fix the problem. Jesus' resurrection has given us the opportunity to be changed and come back to God.

**Second, it is a conquering power.** Let's read Paul words in **Eph. 1:18-23** *"I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms. Now he is far above any ruler or authority or power or leader or anything else—not only in this world but also in the world to come. God has put all things under the authority of Christ and has made him head over all things for the benefit of the church. And the church is his body; it is made full and complete by Christ, who fills all things everywhere with himself."*

**Third, it is a conforming power.** When we become children of God the conforming begins, the Bible challenges us to conform to Christ and not the world. **Roman 12:1-2** teaches, *"And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect."*

The resurrection power of Christ works in us because we have been made alive with Christ – to help us take on the qualities of the Lord. **Rom. 8:29** says, *"And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters."*

The bible uses the idea of clay to reveal this aspect of God. We are workable in His hands. He never stops working on us till the day we pass on to glory. We will be made complete in heaven.

**Fourth, it is a confirming power.** What does the resurrection power of Christ confirm – it confirms that just as Jesus was resurrected so we too will be resurrected – just as death could not hold Christ so death will not be able to hold us in death.

There is a day coming when we will be with God in a glorified state and we will be with Him forever. Here is how Paul talks about it in **1 Thess. 4:13-18**, *"And now, dear brothers and sisters, we want you to know what will happen to the believers who have died so you will not grieve like people who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and was raised to life again, we also believe that when Jesus returns, God will bring back with him the believers"*

*who have died. We tell you this directly from the Lord: We who are still living when the Lord returns will not meet him ahead of those who have died. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. So, encourage each other with these words.”*

**Conclusion:** God wants us to experience Christ’s resurrection power in our lives – it is an available and a necessary power in these evil days. The key to walking in this power begins with knowing Jesus Christ, his life, death on the cross, and resurrection. And then believing it! This is called faith.

There is only one way to experience this power – you must be in Christ Jesus. There is also only one way to receive the Spirit of Christ in your life.

Peter preaching the first Christian sermon on that first Sunday after Jesus went back to heaven, said this in **Acts 2:38-41**, *Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God.” Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation!” Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all.*

If you want to experience the resurrection power of Jesus Christ, you must answer the gospel call of Jesus Christ. Won’t you come today?