



Systematic Theology

A study of the major doctrines of Scripture

TOPIC 2 – THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

LESSON 58 – THE TRINITY: JESUS THE SON – THE RESURRECTION
BIBLICAL DOCTRINE (JOHN MACARTHUR), PGS. 315-331

The Necessity of the Resurrection

- ▶ “Without the resurrection of Christ, His sacrificial death fails to provide the ground for salvation from sin. Therefore, no consideration of the biblical teaching regarding the work of Christ can end with His atoning death.”
- ▶ 1 Corinthians 15:12 Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. 15 Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. 16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. 17 And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

Old Testament Revelation

- ▶ Significant facts about Christ are revealed in the Old Testament, and several of these the New Testament writers use to refer to the resurrection and to Jesus' "glory." (1 Peter 1:11).
- ▶ The display of Jesus' glory is most often associated with His second coming, not His resurrection. However, without His resurrection there can be no second coming and no greater glory.
- ▶ Luke 24:26 "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?"
- ▶ Paul correlates Jesus' resurrection with divine glory – Romans 6:4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, **that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father**, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Old Testament Revelation

- ▶ The resurrected body is raised in glory – 1 Cor. 15:43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.
- ▶ Old Testament references to this part of the program of salvation are seen in many references to God's glory.
- ▶ We also see specific references to resurrection in the following passages:
- ▶ Job 19:25 For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;
26 And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God, 27
Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!
- ▶ Psalm 16:10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

NT application of OT Texts

- ▶ Acts 2:22 “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst, as you yourselves also know— 23 Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; 24 whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that He should be held by it. 25 For David says concerning Him: ‘I foresaw the Lord always before my face, For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. 26 Therefore my heart rejoiced, and my tongue was glad; Moreover my flesh also will rest in hope. 27 For You will not leave my soul in Hades, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me full of joy in Your presence.’ 29 “Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31 he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.

NT application of OT Texts

- ▶ Psalm 110:1 The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.”
- ▶ Acts 13:34 And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: ‘I will give you the sure mercies of David.’ 35 Therefore He also says in another Psalm: ‘You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.’ 36 “For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; 37 but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.

Jesus Announced His Resurrection

- ▶ Matthew 17:9 Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, “Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead.”
- ▶ Luke 18:31 Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. 32 For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. 33 They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.”
- ▶ John 2:19 Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20 Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” 21 But He was speaking of the temple of His body. 22 Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

Appearances

- ▶ All 4 Gospel writers are unanimous in recording that Jesus rose from the dead on the first day of the week (Matt. 28:1-10; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-10).
- ▶ Proof of the resurrection are His appearances:
- ▶ To Mary Magdalene at the Tomb – Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18
- ▶ To the other women in the road – Matt. 28:9-10; Luke 24:9-11
- ▶ To two disciples traveling to Emmaus – Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-32
- ▶ To Peter – Luke 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5
- ▶ To 10 of the Disciples – Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25
- ▶ To 11 of the Disciples – Mark 16:14; John 20:26-31
- ▶ To 7 Disciples while they were fishing – John 21:1-23

Appearances

- ▶ To 11 Disciples in Galilee – Matt. 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18
 - ▶ To over 500 people at once – 1 Cor. 15:6
 - ▶ To James, His brother – 1 Cor. 15:7
 - ▶ To all the Apostles – Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:4-8; 1 Cor. 15:7
 - ▶ To all the Disciples at His Ascension – Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:4-11
 - ▶ To Paul on the Road to Damascus – Acts 9:1-6; 18:9-10; 22:6-11; 26:12-18; 1 Cor. 15:8
 - ▶ To Paul in prison in Jerusalem – Acts 23:11
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- ▶ His resurrection body is still fully human – He ate food (Luke 24:41-43), could be touched (Matt. 28:9; Luke 24:38-40; John 20:17), and His wounds remained visible (John 20:25-29).

Christ's Resurrection Achieved:

- ▶ The fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies.
- ▶ The fulfillment of Jesus' own predictions.
- ▶ Confirmation of His deity – Rom. 1:4
- ▶ The exaltation of the Father – Acts 2:23-24; Rom. 6:4
- ▶ The perfection of Jesus' obedience to His Father's will – John 10:17-18
- ▶ Proof that the Father accepted His atoning work on behalf of His people – Rom. 4:25
- ▶ Provision of regeneration for the elect – 1 Peter 1:3
- ▶ Assurance that believers will not perish for their sins – 1 Cor. 15:17-18
- ▶ Securing the justification of believers and assurance that they will never be condemned by God – Rom. 8:1-11, 31-34

Christ's Resurrection Achieved:

- ▶ Opening the way for Christ to send the Holy Spirit to indwell believers – John 16:7
- ▶ Declares Christ head of the Church – Eph. 1:19-23; Col. 1:15-19
- ▶ Establishes God's pattern of power in spiritually raising believers from death in their trespasses – Eph. 1:19-20; 2:1-6
- ▶ Motivates believers for spiritual living, since we are seated with Christ in heaven and assured of being with Him in glory – Eph. 2:5-6; Col. 3:1-4
- ▶ Motivates our service to Christ – Rom. 7:4; 1 Cor. 15:14, 58
- ▶ Encouragement to establish the first day of the week for worship within local assemblies – Matt. 28:1; John 20:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2

Christ's Resurrection Achieved:

- ▶ Establishes an unshakeable foundation of hope that God will fulfill all His promises – Rom. 8:23-25; 1 Cor. 15:19-20; 1 Peter 1:3
- ▶ The guarantee of future resurrection for all believers – John 5:26-29; 14:19; Rom. 4:25; 6:5-10; 1 Cor. 15:20, 30
- ▶ Confirmation of the future fulfillment of the Davidic covenant – Acts 2:29-36; 13:34-37
- ▶ The certainty that Christ will judge the world – John 5:24-30; Acts 17:31
- ▶ The glorification and exaltation of the Son with the glory He once shared with the Father – John 17:5; Phil. 2:8-9; 1 Peter 1:10-11, 20-21

The Resurrection was Necessary

- ▶ There exists no greater event in redemption history than the resurrection of Christ, because it completes and validates His sacrificial death and advances the program of the kingdom with an eternally living King.
- ▶ The resurrection must be believed for someone to experience salvation.
- ▶ Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, “Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.” 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For “whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Next week

- ▶ Lesson 59: The Trinity – Jesus the Son – The Ascended and Glorified Christ