

# JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD

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It's a blessing for me to speak to you on the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus. The message of the early Church was the Resurrection. It is the only point. It was THE message, the Gospel, that was preached. The message of the Resurrection is not PART of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It IS the Gospel of Jesus Christ and there is no other Gospel! The Apostle Paul said that if anyone preaches any other Gospel to you than that which was preached, let him be accursed. **(Galatians 1:8)** In other words, if he or anyone else comes and brings you any form of Good News that is not found in the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ where Jesus was made Lord and Messiah, conquering over sin and death and bringing that life to you as a free gift to all people, Jew and Gentile, any other message but that message wherein the Good News is the physical resurrection of Jesus, Paul says, "Let that message be treated as something that brings the curse, that brings death over your life and cannot bring you life."

I want you to know that the essence of the Gospel is the Resurrection. You might say, "No, Bertie, the essence of the Gospel is the love of God." I fully agree with you but love has to be defined. The definition and the revelation of God's love is found in that He gave His only begotten Son so that those who believe upon Him will not perish but have everlasting life. The only way where you can get everlasting life is through the resurrection of Jesus Christ where He has come and condemned sin in the flesh, condemned death, was raised from the dead and where that life belongs to us. We have the hope of the Resurrection and where we are sons of God because of this Resurrection. We will be manifested as sons by His doing enjoying the fruit of the Spirit as we await such a beautiful, glorious, manifestation of sonship.

I want to read Acts 13 and bring to you the reason why the message of the Resurrection is of such importance.

**Acts 13:**

***38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:***

***39 And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.***

It says here that through Jesus it is preached the forgiveness of sins. The way that we have seen the forgiveness of our sins was in a legalistic or judicial way where there was divine law which was broken by Adam and Eve. Then through them embracing the Law, sin passed to all and all man sinned. Because God is such a just and divine Being, it was merely just righteous that He would punish all people with death and therefore all people stood, legally guilty before God. Now that guilt was taken away in Jesus being punished for humanity. Now from that legalistic point of view we come and we declare salvation. We say, "Well, since Jesus was punished we should not be punished by the Father anymore." Actually, in saying that we are making the Father's anger our problem, making a part of who God is our problem.

That is a model where we saw salvation and how many churches and many theologians define salvation. Yet, I do not believe that is the Biblical model or the model that was understood by the Apostle Paul. When we look at the book of Acts, it talks about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It says that Jesus did not see corruption. In other words, He died but He wasn't kept in death. He was saved from death by the Holy Spirit, by the Father, that raised Him from the dead, never to see corruption.

We know that no obedience to the Law could save any man from sin nor could save any man from death. But, we find here that God comes and He is now the Savior. He comes and He forgive us of our sins. According to this passage, the forgiveness of sin is explained in verse 39.

**38 Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man** (which in verse 37 was declared as the one who didn't see corruption, that was raised from the dead. In other words, he was saying that through the resurrection of Jesus) **is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:** and then it explained what the forgiveness of sins),

**39 And by him all that believe** (Believe what? Believe that He was raised from the dead. We will look at that in Mark 16 as well.) **And by him,** (the one who was raised, through His resurrection. All that believe that He was raised from the dead) **are justified from all things, from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.**

Here we find that the forgiveness of sins has nothing to do with a legalistic pardoning of people that stand guilty before God. We find that it has nothing to do with guilt before God. It has nothing to do with punishment but it has everything to do, justification and forgiveness of sins, has everything to do with God delivering us from the fruit of the flesh as well as death itself through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That is why this Resurrection and the message of the Resurrection is of such importance.

I want to say to you the reason why the message of the Resurrection and the reason why I preach it for many years is basically the only message we teach. The reason why it is so important is because, through that and through belief in that, we find deliverance from the fruit of the flesh and we define deliverance from death. We can experience the resurrection of Jesus. I want to put it this way: Through this man, Jesus Christ, if I want to explain what is written here in Acts, if we don't want to use the Law or forgiveness of sins, I want to use it this way: Through this man, Jesus Christ, is preached to you, freedom from whatever binds you! Freedom from any drug rehab, alcohol rehab centers, self-help programs could not help you to freedom... Freedom from anything that binds you where the systems of this world could not set you free. That was what was actually said! In Afrikaanse we say that Jesus is the verlosser which actually means the Deliverer. It is one of the main words we ascribe Jesus with. We say, "He is the Deliverer, the Verlosser." We don't say, "He is the Forgiver." He is the Deliverer because God has not walked with anger in His heart towards humanity. He has walked with concern towards humanity. In our legalistic, judicial way of trying to define salvation, we have actually confused the compassion of God with anger towards sin. The concern that there was in God for His people who are dying, we have confused that and have said that it was actually the anger of God that had to be appeased in Jesus Christ. I want to tell you that God was never walking with anger towards the world.

The Bible says in **John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish** (die), **but have everlasting life** (live forever).

In the original context, it says that they should not die but live forever.

Wouldn't it be amazing if you can go to the world and say, "God loves you so much that He never wants you to die!" People would actually start to believe in God because many people think that God just wants them to die. God just wants to wipe them from the face of the earth for they are sinners and they don't qualify. In the meantime, that is not true! God looks at the life of people and He sees their lives so valuable that He made an eternal investment in humanity by becoming a human Himself changing the form where He was.

Remember, God is Spirit. I don't believe that before creation that God was a physical human. Definitely not! God was in a completely different form but then God came and saw man and the situation that man was in and He said, "I will change My form. I will become a human." And then He became a human. He took the death of humanity upon Him, went to that cross, died there, and then when He was raised, after He was raised, He appeared to His disciples and said, "It is I! That human that died, I have now been glorified so here am I, a glorified human!" And God was then forever sealed into a form of physicality which is a human. Think of this investment that God has made. A glorified human that cannot die, that is above sin and death, a human now in the equality of God, not as God was but now in a different form and yet in equality. That is the investment that God has made in humanity. He loves you! He is not angry with humanity! He cares for us and Jesus did not come to take the anger of God out of the heart of God. He never came to save God from His anger problem. He came to save man from sin and death for there was not anger in the heart of the Father prior to the death of Jesus Christ. There was love in the heart of God, the Father, towards humanity. He wanted to come and be a Father, a Creator, a life giver to humanity and bring us into a form of living where we can never die and forever be with Him.

Imagine a couple getting married standing in front of the preacher and then one says to the other one, "Until death do us part." When they say, "Until death do us part," it is because they cannot say, "Forever" because they know that people are mortal. They actually come and say, "We will live in love towards one other until death do us part because we cannot continue further than that."

Now, God was not willing to say, "Until death do us part" because He wants us forever! Therefore He said He gave His Son so that we would not die because His voice to us is not until anything can separate us. His voice to us is eternal, forever, and He demonstrated that in the fact that He was incarnated. Then, after His death, He didn't just become a spirit where He floated in heaven but He was raised as a human being showing His eternal investment and love for humans. That Resurrection, believed, gives us the access to the Holy Spirit and gives God access to our lives where He raises us up into complete equality with who and what Jesus is sharing in His life.

With that in mind, we are going to look at Mark 16 and then we are going to go through this Resurrection message and I am going to explain to you the power of this Resurrection. I will talk about some very practical things here today. It is amazing to think that God was not angry with us!

**Mark 16** talks about Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome and how they took spices to anoint the body of Jesus at the grave on the third day because they knew that the body would start to smell. On the way there, they were concerned because, remember, there was a Roman seal on that stone. They were thinking who would roll this away because it was going to be a problem with a seal on it plus it was a heavy stone and who will roll it away. When they got to the grave they saw that the stone was already rolled away and there was a young man in a white robe basically sitting there. He said to them, "Look He is not here anymore!" **Verse 6: *And he saith unto them, Be not afraid: You seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.***

This young man that was an angel said, "Listen, I know who you are looking for. You are looking for the one who was crucified who actually died upon the cross. He is risen!" He didn't say that He was stolen. He didn't say that dogs ate Him. Some Christians believe say that the Resurrection is not that important and Jesus was simply an example for us on how to love and was just an example to us on how to love those who are against you, and all those kind of things. I want to tell you that the example Jesus set cannot help any man! Jesus didn't overcome sin and death by allowing people to beat Him and not saying anything. That is not how He overcame sin and death. That is just a lie. The way that Jesus overcame sin and death was by faith in the Father that after people had ill treated Him, He then, in His trust in the Father, was raised from the dead and so received a new form of physicality where He has a body where there is no sin in His flesh. Then, through that He gave to everybody who believed in Him, the hope of the very same resurrection. That is how it was conquered. We cannot come and belittle the Resurrection through 'dumbing-down' to Jesus simply just being an example for us. An example cannot save you. We needed a Resurrection! That is what this is all about. Glory to God!

He comes seeking Jesus, he says, ***he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.*** He said, "Look at the grave here. Look at the stone where they laid Him. He is not here. He was raised!

Then he said,

***7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goes before you into Galilee: there shall you see him, as he said unto you.*** Now this young man is referring back to what Jesus said to them that He would be raised. It's amazing that they didn't believe that Jesus would be raised from the dead. Jesus, repeatedly, said to His disciples that He would be raised from the dead. He told them, "The time for the Son of man to be glorified has come. They are going to kill Me but I will be raised on the third day." They forgot all about that. They didn't even remember that. It was not in their minds. It's only referred to in the writings of the gospels later on where they now took account of what was actually said.

***8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre (grave); for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any man; for they were afraid.***

***9 Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.***

***10 And she went and told them that had been with him, as they mourned and wept.***

***11 And they, when they had heard that he was alive, and had been seen of her, believed not.***

So what happens here is He appears to Mary Magdalene and she went and told the disciples because they were mourning. They were very sad because the one that they thought was the Messiah has died. You must realize that in their mind they don't understand the Resurrection. They don't know the power of the Resurrection. It is not a concept to them that one man will be raised and that would be the beginning of the resurrection and that in His resurrection, and the resurrection of the last days would take place. They did not understand that. They just thought that their Messiah had died. They thought that they were deceived. They didn't know what to do! They had followed Him. They believed in Him. He did signs and wonders and miracles. Peter even said in **Matthew 16: *You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!*** Then Jesus said, "Flesh and blood has not revealed that to you but My Father which is in heaven." Jesus raised the dead. He did so many things but here He comes and they betrayed Him as He got caught by the Jewish guard and then He was delivered to the Romans and was crucified.

They were in despair! Their Savior has died and now they are mourning like you would mourn for someone who would never be raised again. Mary Magdalene knew how heart broken these people were having no hope and she went to them and said, "I did see Jesus!"

In the time of the Jews, a woman's testimony back then carried no power. You couldn't come and use a woman in that case, especially against a man, and say that she saw this. It wouldn't even count because women were regarded just as over emotional beings who cannot even give an accurate description of an account and here we find that these people didn't even believe her.

*12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.*

*13 And they went and told it unto the residue: neither believed they them.*

They thought, "A resurrection from the dead. What are you talking about? This is impossible! We know that Jesus could raise the dead and He did raise Lazarus but for Him, who is going to raise Him? It's impossible!" They didn't believe.

*14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat to eat and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.*

*15 And he said unto them, Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.*

*16 He that believes...*

So what is the context here? The context is that He who believes that Jesus was raised from the dead. It says, *He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; he that believes not shall be damned.*

We have had this teaching in the Church, and this is what we understood, that we need to confess our sin and if we confess our sin we shall be forgiven of our sins and cleansed from all unrighteousness. We have taken **3 John 1:9-10** as the start of the Gospel where we say, "This is how your Christian walk starts: You confess your sin, show remorse and stop your sin and serve Jesus." That is not where your walk with Christ starts. Your walk with Christ, where you are a partaker of what He has done, starts with you acknowledging or believing that Jesus was raised from the dead. That's what **Romans 10: 9-10** says. He who believes in his heart that Jesus was raised from the dead and confessed with his mouth that He is the Lord, he shall be saved. For with the heart you believe unto the equitable deed of God and His justification and with your mouth when you call Him Lord, you are making confession that He is the one that saves you from the fruit of the flesh and in the end, death. That is what that passage means.

Church, I can understand and I can see how some might say, "This is complicated. Rather just give me a simple teaching." Listen, this is as simple as it gets! This is the simplicity of the Gospel. This IS the Gospel. Anything else can fall in the category of a 'feel good' motivational speech. You don't need Jesus to give someone a motivational speech. What you need Jesus for is to be saved from sin and death and to be saved from what bogs you down and causes depression in your life, where He brings forth a brand new life. So here we see that the word, Gospel, is used to explain the Good News of the Resurrection.

So when we read the Bible and we talk about the Gospel of the apostles from after the Resurrection. The Gospel that Jesus preached was not the fact that He was raised from the dead.

The Gospel that Jesus preached was that His kingdom is now working in the earth. That was the Gospel Jesus preached which was a different gospel than what the apostles preached, although in the end it is all referring to the same thing. What the apostles preached was the Good News that Jesus was raised. The first person who ever preached the Good News was Mary Magdalene. She came to the disciples and preached the Gospel to them which was that Jesus was raised from the dead. They were sad. They were mourning. They didn't know that He was raised and since they were mourning like that, she came with a message that could save them from their mourning and that was, "Jesus is raised!" That is the Good News. That is the Gospel! They did not believe, Jesus rebuked them for their unbelief and then explained something very powerful. He said, "Go into all the world, to Jew and Gentile, and preach the Gospel to them. Preach that Jesus was raised! He who believes and is immersed, baptized, into this truth, shall be saved. He who does not believe this shall be damned." That's what He said.

So, what is the Good News? The Good News is that Jesus was raised! All of salvation pivots around a belief in the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ. Just believing that Jesus died, cannot save you. Believing that Jesus went to the cross cannot save you. The Apostle Paul clearly says it in 1 Corinthians 15 that if Jesus was not raised, let us eat, drink and die." He says that there is no purpose for us in this world if Jesus was not raised! Jesus did die but His death means absolutely nothing as pertaining to salvation if there would not have been a Resurrection. The only thing the death of Jesus Christ means and what it is all about is in the death there was a unification of Jew and Gentile. It was the end of the old man. If Jesus would have just died for humanity, do you know what that would mean to us, without a Resurrection? Zilch! Nothing! Zero! Absolutely nothing!

What we do is, the only thing we do in the church with our whole mind revolved around is only the crucifixion because we think that is where Jesus was punished for me, with the beating that I deserved, the Father beat Jesus, and therefore I stand, traditionally, right before God and therefore I can go to heaven if I just believe that Jesus died. It is not the point around which Christianity pivots. It's not the fact that Jesus died. Although there is great power and great truth and great understanding in that and that it was absolutely necessary. Without the death there couldn't even be a Resurrection. You cannot have just one of the two. You needed to have both but the whole thing, the Gospel, was not that Jesus died. The gospel was not that He became sin. That was not the Gospel although that is needed to form the Gospel. The Gospel was that Jesus Christ was physically raised from the dead and was preached in such a way that the early Christians understood that and the apostles understood that, that God has now made Him the Messiah and the Lord.

Now, I want to explain something to you and I heard someone talk about this. In about 66 AD there was a man called Simon Bar-Jonah. Bar means son and Jonah means of the strong one or the mighty one. He was basically, if you could call it, a Jewish William Wallace if you've seen the movie, *Brave Heart*. He was just a peasant and just a normal guy but very good at war. Then when the first time the Romans came to make war against Jerusalem, he attacked from the north, the Roman armies, and he really upset the Roman armies and did win some things there. What he wanted was to be honored by the "clergy" or the "higher society" of the Jewish people. He wanted to be a ruler as well. They didn't want somebody of the lower ranks to be a ruler. They told him that they couldn't give him a place and then he became very upset and went and attacked the rich Jews, the rich people. He said that these rich, high society people, don't want to make place with people who can really mean something against this war, against the Romans. He started to attack the rich Jews in the small town and he made havoc. He destroyed and he got an army and eventually had about 40,000 people follow him. To make a long story short, the very people he was attacking, his own people, the Jewish people and the high society, had to make room for him inside the city gates of Jerusalem when the Romans decided to take over Jerusalem in about 70AD, to destroy everything there.

But he was called a deliverer or a protector, a savior. He was called a savior and he had about 40,000 people that followed him and that is not even including his army. But the Romans came in, caused havoc, destroyed the temple, destroyed everything. He went underground in Jerusalem, in this physical city, in some of the tunnels in the city and he was hiding there. He had people who would cut through rock and try to get him out of the city but he ran without food and he had to appear. He came in a kingly robe and came out of the ground at the very place where the temple was destroyed. They took him and took the Jewish people and Titus went in the triumphant entry. They came and had Simon behind them as a leader and they judged him as a traitor and threw him off a big rock and killed him.

Now, imagine he had eleven disciples. After he was killed, what do you think that they would do? Do you think that they are now going to run around to a city and say to the Romans, "Listen. This Simon that has died is king!" Do you think they are going to do that? They are not going to do that. They are going to say, "He is not a Messiah. He is not a savior. The Romans got the better of him. He is dead. The temple is destroyed. There is no hope for us. Let us call it what it is. If we want the Messiah, we need to go and look for another one but this one is not the Messiah!" They are going to be quiet and hope that they can get away from this and that they will not pay with their lives for being associated with him. That is what they are going to do.

But in the case of Jesus, He suffers, to a certain degree, the same fate. He is crucified on a hill outside of Jerusalem. He is completely defeated, destroyed, in the eyes of the Jews. They found Him guilty. The Romans found Him guilty. Both of them condemned Him to death and then He was put upon the cross and He physically died. A spear was put in His side and He was proven completely dead. Then a rich man asked for His body to be put into a grave and not be eaten by birds and thrown in a heap to be eaten by the wild animals and the birds. He was put in a grave and three days later these eleven scared people who were running away as what should Simon had had disciples. That's how scared they were. They were fearing. They didn't know what to do.

They were afraid and here something happened that caused these eleven people, not long after that, to go into Jerusalem and stand there in front of the Romans as well as the very Jew that crucified Him, unashamed, and say to all of them, "I want to tell you that this man, Jesus, who you crucified, God has decided to make Him Lord and Messiah for He was raised from the dead. He rules over Rome and He rules over the Jews because whatever they wanted to do to Him, whatever their verdict was, which was death, He has proven to be greater than their verdict because He conquered over the Romans in being raised from the dead.

They put Him to death but He is stronger than them. He is stronger than all the Jews and therefore since He was raised from the dead and He declared that through belief in this Resurrection He will also save us, who believe upon Him, from death. We come and we boldly declare, in front of all of you, that this one that you killed, that you are guilty of killing, He is the Messiah and He is the Lord!

I want to tell you that nothing but a physical resurrection from the dead wherein these people didn't doubt at all, can cause that to take place. They would have run. They would have scattered if it was a fake thing. It was true! It was real and if that physical resurrection of Jesus is referred to many times in the New Testament as the truth and not a lie! His body wasn't stolen by His disciples. He was truly risen.

I want to tell you that if His body was stolen by His disciples, that would not be powerful enough, if they knew that He was really dead, to go and stand up against Rome. That would not be powerful enough to stand up against those very people that killed Jesus. But here we see something, some miraculous power in the Resurrection and in those who believe in this Resurrection, that it saves them from the fear of death. Hallelujah! It makes them happy. It makes them, later on, share their very substance they had, walk in love, walk in forgiveness, be kind to people, heal the sick, spread the Good News of the Resurrection. That is what took place here. That is what we see in the Book of Acts.

**Acts 2:**

**32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.** (He says that we are witnesses that Jesus was raised from the dead.)

**33 Therefore being at the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has shed forth this, which you now see and hear.**

This was at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. They were praying in tongues. When the people were praying in tongues and preaching the Good News, the wonderful things of God, they said, "What is this?" Peter stood up and said, "This that you are seeing now, let me tell you what this is. Jesus was raised from the dead and He received the Holy Spirit, the immortal life of God. He, as a human, is now in equality with God, seated in the heavens with God as a human being. Now this Spirit that was poured out, we testify that this Spirit that He received in His resurrection, He is now poured out on people as well. The resurrection that He partook in, He is now ruling and reigning over the sin and death of humanity and of humans that believe upon Him and this is what you are seeing. You are finding supernatural power in these people. They are doing things that they couldn't do before. So you are seeing the effect of the Resurrection. Then they started to think, "But we have now harmed someone here that we were not supposed to harm!" They were touched in their hearts by the preaching. Hear what happens now:

**37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?**

**38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent** (In other words, change your view and opinion about this Man and believe in the Resurrection. Many of them believed that He wasn't raised.),

**and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus** (The Messiah, where you now say, "This Jesus who you crucified, was raised from the dead and He is now the Messiah of humanity when He doesn't save Jews from Gentiles or where He doesn't try to save one ethnic group from the other ethnic group but where He has come to save man from death and sin in the flesh and to bring life and immortality to humanity. It says that when you believe that and when you are baptized in the name of Jesus, the Christ... Remember the passage in **Matthew 1:21** where it says that you shall call His name Jesus. Why? For He shall save His people from their sins. It says that you must be baptized in the name of the Savior who is now raised from the dead and through the Resurrection we see Him as the Christ.

He says that when you are baptized into that name, it will be for a certain reason... **for the remission of sins** Please, people, the remission of sins there does not talk about not standing guilty before God! That is not even part of the equation! It is not in the equation. What is in the equation and what the remission of sins he is talking about here we have seen in **Mark 16**. It talks about the Resurrection. We've seen it in **Acts 13:38**. It talks about being saved from death and sin in the flesh and the fruit of the flesh. That is what it is talking about the remission of sins.



Another word for remission is deliverance from not partaking and be a co-sharer of the life of God... ***and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*** (the very Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead and you will have the hope of immortality. That is what Peter was saying here. That is what he was trying to communicate to these people.

I want to tell you this and it may be a shock to many people but when Jesus appeared to them, and He was raised from the dead and He appeared to them He said, "Why do you not believe that I am raised?" He proved to them that He was raised and He said to them, "Go and preach this Good News now." They didn't sit there with a feeling saying, "Well, I don't feel God is not angry with me. I'm feeling that God is not angry with me therefore let me go and preach." That was not what empowered them. The feeling of not standing guilty before the Law was not what empowered them! What empowered them was, all of a sudden, they saw God bringing the Resurrection that the Pharisees believed in, right to hand here, and we now find a man that is greater than death. We find that He now comes and He says that you can also have this immortality and you can also be saved from the death as I was saved from it in being saved to a new form of physicality. That is what empowered them. That is what caused them to say, "Let us go and tell all people!"

Then it says in **Mark 16:20** ***And they went forth, and preached everywhere*** (What did they preach everywhere? That Jesus was raised from the dead.) ***and the Lord working with them, and confirming the word***

What word? The message that He was raised from the dead. Glory to God!

We have come with all forms of Gospel. Church, there is only one Gospel! It is the message that Jesus was raised from the dead. We have deviated from that. We have come to the place where the Gospel was, "Well, Jesus died for you and the Father took out all His anger on one man, Jesus, and now, if you believe that He was on the earth, that He died on the cross, now you are a believer in Jesus and one day He is going to take you to heaven. That has never been the Gospel! That will never be the Gospel. The Gospel is that God has come in one man Jesus. He became sin and He conquered the sin in the flesh. He condemned sin in the flesh. That means that in the flesh, in His resurrected flesh, He made it possible for humanity to be set free from sin and death so who and what God is can be experienced inside us right now, not by our obedience to laws, not by our own willpower, but by the Spirit of God that raised Jesus from the dead. This Spirit He poured out in the second chapter in the book of **Acts** and upon those who believed. That is the Spirit we receive whereby we now live as we believe on the Gospel which is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Hallelujah! Glory to God!

The Gospel is not that God was angry and He beat Jesus and now you don't have to be beaten. Neither is the Gospel that you are not under the law of Moses. No, that is just a conclusion we come to because of the Gospel which is the Resurrection of Jesus. Since the law could not give me a resurrected body, since the law was weak in that it could not save me from bitterness and hatred and sexual immorality and alcohol abuse and whatever, including death, since the law was too weak to do it, we now know and see that God has done it in the body of Jesus and the death He had and the sin that He became was ours. Therefore we can now say that He was made sin because that's where we were. He conquered the sin that we were in that we can say, "Thank God! We now have the hope of this resurrection.

I just feel like I preached the introduction! I still want to preach!

***Romans 1:1 Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, (Now listen to this) separated unto the gospel of God,***

What is the Gospel? Paul said, "I am a servant of Jesus Christ, called an apostle, a special messenger."

What message did Paul have? He had the very same message that Mary Magdalene had. They saw the Resurrected Jesus! Paul saw the Resurrected Jesus in Acts chapter 9 on the road to Damascus when Jesus appeared to Paul when he was still Saul. After this appearing, after seeing the Resurrected Jesus, what did he go and do? He preached the Gospel, the Resurrection that Jesus was raised from the dead. He was a very intelligent man and in Christ, all the scriptures started to make sense and he started to preach from the scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah. Hallelujah! The same thing that Peter did.

The Gospel is that Jesus was raised from the dead and sin and death is conquered.

***2 Which he had promised afore by his prophets in the holy scriptures,***

What was promised by the prophets in the holy scriptures? It was that Jesus would be raised from the dead. It was eternal life. Eternal life was promised by God. We read that in Titus 1:2.

***3: Considering His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh (According to the flesh He was made of the seed of David) and declared to be the Son of God (How was He declared to be the Son of God with power?) according to the Holy Spirit by the Resurrection from the dead.***

Here he says that Jesus was declared to be the Son of God by the Resurrection from the dead. So, how can you say that you are a son of God... by the resurrection from the dead. Now He comes and He pours out that Holy Spirit upon the believers and now we say, "We, by the Holy Spirit, say to God, "Abba, Father" where we are now saying, "God is our Father." The only place where we **can** say that God is our Father is through the physical resurrection from the dead, in Jesus, where we have the hope of a physical resurrection. We shall be revealed as the sons of God in immortal flesh as Jesus, by His Spirit, manifests that in us in His return. That is what it is all about, Church. It's about God conquering sin in your flesh. It's about God conquering your death. It's not about God being an angry God that is legalistic, that wants to beat up people and is sin conscious. The only reason why God is conscious of your sin, or knows of your sin, is because of the harm it brings to you. He doesn't deal with you according to your transgression. He doesn't deal with you according to your sin. He deals with your sin according to the power of His Resurrection and delivers you by HIS doing!

Who, in his right mind, in the mind of Jesus as the Christ, in the mind of the Gospel as I have explained it today, will ever still be in need of a Law to justify you to life! Who in his right mind will ever be still in the need of any form of legalism or things you need to do, to prosper you or save you from poverty! Today we still preach tithing and sowing and reaping as a principle which will save us from poverty! Who, understanding the Gospel, will still think that you are in need of anything to do to be saved from any bad thing in the light of the Messiah, the Christ, who conquered death! Don't you think that in His resurrection He has conquered everything else as well? He HAS! Hallelujah! Glory to God!

That is why we say that the Law is fulfilled! Whatever the Law spoke about, what the Law was about, was it was prophesying of this Jesus, this Resurrected Christ, this glorified human, who conquered our sin and death, who is now Lord, who is, through His Resurrection, manifesting who and what He rose up into, by the Spirit that He pours out on the earth. Where we don't try to rule and reign but where we are ruled and reigned over by God who comes and who brings justice to this earth according to His victory, in His triumphant entry, where He blesses us with His life! Hallelujah! Glory to God! I feel so happy because of what Jesus has done and we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We are believers in the Gospel, the true Gospel, and there is no other! Hallelujah! Glory to God!

PRAYER: Father, thank You so much for Your goodness. Thank You for Your Grace. Lord, I still want to explain what Grace is according to this Resurrection. Thank You for Your Grace, Lord, where You have influenced our state of being to a new creation which is not just a spiritual thing which is true in You. Thank You that Your glory is as of the only begotten of God, a physical human that cannot die, filled with influential power unto us in the truth of Your physicality. Thank You, Lord!

I declare to you the Resurrection of Jesus, the victory over sin and death in one man, Jesus! I declare that you need no Law to be set free! You don't need any works of the flesh, no obedience to commandments... nothing! For a new commandment He gave which is to BELIEVE ... so that we can love one another. Thank You, that as we believe You, we find love in our hearts come forth by the power of the Resurrection. We find generosity coming in our hearts by the power of the Resurrection. We find kindness, faithfulness, freedom from fear, love in our hearts, by Your Resurrection, Lord. Amen

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