

**GREETING
COMMUNION
TODAY'S MESSAGE**

UNDERSTANDING THE RESURRECTION

Bertie Brits

February 4, 2018

GREETING

Greeting in the wonderful name of Jesus. I am so blessed to come to you today and bring you the Gospel of God's grace. Today we are going to talk about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and we are just going to talk about the power of God. I so excited about this message today!

I would like to welcome everybody that is slotted in for the first time. You have slotted into a live stream of Dynamic Love Church's Sunday's service. This purpose of this web church is to teach people the Grace of God as well as have a platform where the people can communicate with people who are like-minded and just share the grace of God with one another, minister, pray for one another and encourage one another in the grace of God. We know and understand that there are people who feel lonely out there and they 'need' a church family. The Scripture does say that we should not neglect the gathering of the brethren and sometimes you are at a place where you just feel that you cannot gather around a legalistic message. You want to gather around people who are like-minded and this is the place for you. We are not against local churches. My dream is that from this truth many churches in homes and even bigger churches start from this Gospel. So we are not against anything, we are for something.

I just want to say, "Welcome!" I trust you are going to be blessed. If you want to know more about our Web Church, please go to Dybnamicministry.com or you can go to Bertibrits.com and just click on web church. There you will read everything you need to know about our Web Church.

To everyone who slots in regularly, it's wonderful to have you here. It is wonderful to just sit here in my studio and know there are people watching right now. Most of the people will watch this later but it's good to know there is a group of people watching its right now. It's a wonderful sense of family and what a blessing to just be together here today.

Now, as we start this Service, let us pray together.

Father, I want to thank You for Your grace and Your mercy. I want to thank You for Your love. I want to thank you for the wonderful opportunity to come and share Your Gospel with people. Holy Spirit, Spirit of life, the Spirit of the Lord, thank You that You are here, present, to come and minister to all of us. Thank You that You speak powerfully and we can move and minister in the Spirit and see the power of Your resurrection in our lives. Amen and amen

COMMUNION

As our custom is, we have Communion together every Sunday.

John 6:

47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believes on me hath everlasting life.

To you who know what I have been preaching lately, when it says everlasting life we can already see it is not just talking about you having a place in heaven. He is talking about immortality, everlasting life, that includes the human body that will become immortal in the return of Jesus which we have a lot to say about.

48 I am that bread of life.

The reason I talk about physical death here is because of the next verse that says:

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

Do you see Jesus' concept here of death is? It talks about people who were in the desert that did eat the manna and where are they today? Their bodies have died.

50 This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

It is amazing! And after the death of Jesus we saw a resurrection and we see what He is talking about here.

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

Or, as the life of the world, or to redeem the life of the world. Isn't that absolutely powerful! We can understand why God gave His Son and we can understand why He came in a physical body. And as He says there that this bread, we are not talking about this physical bread here but we talking about His body, "It is called the bread of life. That life is defined by Jesus Christ already in that very same passage.

Let me read it again: **Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.** They thought the bread of life was that manna but He says, "No, that manna could not save their lives." That manna, back then, couldn't give them eternal life. They have died.

He says, **This is the bread which comes down from heaven a man may eat thereof, and not die.**

In other words he says that the true bread that comes from heaven will give you something that when you eat of it then you will not die.

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

52 The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat?

The the Jews were fighting among one another saying how can this man say that we must eat his flesh? They wanted to kill Him. They were completely against Him. They did not understand what He was talking about.

As we have Communion today, as we eat this bread, we are saying, “We are the sons of God.” When we say that we are the sons of God, it means something. In my mind and I believe in the mind of the writers of the letters of the Bible, the Gospel, when you would say, 'Son of God’, you would say, “Equal to God” or “In equality with God.” And since God is the only immortal, we are saying that we have eternal life.

Today, we don't get to see the immortal life manifesting in us but we see signs of eternal life in us. We find things like love and joy and peace, the gifts of the Spirit and some supernatural things taking place in our lives which are signs of this eternal life. Then it says that we are patiently waiting for God to reveal His sons which is, when Christ comes. He would show forth this eternal life that He was talking about which He defined that the people in the desert, who ate the manna, did not have that eternal life manifesting in them for they died. So he is having the physical resurrection and the fruit in the life of the believer which is the fruit of the Spirit in mind as the result of His body that was broken.

I want to say that Jesus Christ came and He made His body available that we can eat of the revelation of where He has conquered sin and death. As I will talk later on in this talk that life and immortality came to life through the Gospel which is the message that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead.

As we are gathering as a web family, let us grab a hold of the mindset of how Christ has conquered everything that would lead unto death which is sins or the fruit of the flesh. He has conquered that. That's why we don't need the law today to try and conquer sin, to try and conquer death because Jesus conquered everything that leads unto sin and death and presents us with His resurrection life. As we behold that and we say that we are partakers of that body that was broken and conquered sin and conquered death, we experience the power of His resurrection that works in us today. Glory to God!

Let me just pray and thank God for the body and the blood

Father, I want to thank You for the blood of Jesus, the blood of a New Covenant, the blood of the New Testament. I also thank You for the body that was broken which speaks of the manna that came from heaven that was chastised, put on Golgotha. Thank You that we can partake of this body that has now conquered sin and death.

Thank You, Lord, for Your body and Your blood. And as a web church, we are partaking and having our common union around this truth. Amen. Let's enjoy the Communion together.

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

UNDERSTANDING THE RESURRECTION

Bertie Brits

February 4, 2018

Today I am going to talk about the resurrection. I'm starting a series on the Resurrection and I trust that you are going to have great understanding and that your understanding will be broadened pertaining to the resurrection of Christ and you will experience the power of His resurrection.

First I want to start off by saying why I want to teach on the Resurrection. The Resurrection is what I would call the heart of Christianity. It was the heart of the early church. It was what it all revolved around. It was what caused all the political turmoil in that time as pertaining to the Christians and the Jews as well as the Gentiles. It was what the early church believed the Gospel was. The Gospel was the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Gospel was the message that Jesus conquered sin, conquered death and that He is King. He is not just King in heaven but King of this world as we would think of an earthly King. He is now the King of this world and that His domain and His rulership is being manifested in this world, not by Christians trying to manifest the kingdom of God but, by the Holy Spirit bringing brand new lives to people and manifesting the very life of Christ and the victory of Christ in people.

The justice of God and creation meets in the Resurrection. I want to explain to you what I mean by that. The justice of God and creation meets in the Resurrection. When we think of the justice of God, so many times we thought of the punishment of God but that is not true! The justice of God is the very good that God wants to do to the world and in the world. We need to understand that creation is a good creation. It's not a bad creation. It's not something that God wants to just wipe away and fold up like a cloth and forget about it and bring forth a place in heaven where there's a heavenly city where we can leave this earth and go and live in heaven. That is not God's plan!

God's plan was that justice would be served in the world. The justice that God had in mind for the world was that an eternal life would be in the world and that man and animals and the planet and everything in the cosmos would be under the government of God's love and peace and kindness wherein the Spirit of His power does the upkeep and manifests the life of God in this world. That is what His plan was. Jesus taught us how to pray. He said to His disciples, "Pray this prayer: Our Father which art in heaven..." Then one part there says, "As it is in heaven, so on earth." So God's plan has always been that His vision for the earth must manifest in this world. His vision was that His eternal life would manifest in what we would call mortality in the things of this world in the people of this world.

It even says in Romans, chapter 8, that creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God. I want to be clear. It does not say, "Creation waits for the sons of God to manifest that they are sons of God. No, the Bible says that creation waits for God to manifest who His sons are and that we know is the salvation of our bodies. It is not salvation **from** our bodies but the salvation **of** our bodies which Jesus partook in when the Holy Spirit raised Him from the dead.

So the justice of God is defined by when we look at what happened in Adam, God had a plan that Adam would come and that he would rule and reign in the earth. He would have dominion over everything in the earth and that the life that God freely granted him in the Garden would expand through Adam, and through his relationship with God, and so fill the earth. Adam and Eve and who they were as they were standing in their relationship with God God would flood the earth that there would be many people like them flooded with the very same life on this earth. Then the enemy came. The Bible says that the enemy came and at night scattered some seed. He came in darkness to Eve and deceived Eve. Then, in that deception, brought sin and death into this world through Adam and brought destruction. He wanted to destroy the plan of God and God wanted justice to be served, that which He planned the world for, that which He planned man for. He wanted justice to be served. That's why I say that justice and creation meet in the resurrection because when Jesus was raised from the dead, justice was served. That which God has always decided and wanted for physicality, for man, was seen in Jesus. He was called the first born from the dead and He, and what He is today, is our blessed hope where God is taking us to in the Holy Spirit.

In this message and in this series, I'm going to talk about the resurrection of the dead. What I mean about the resurrection of the dead is that Jesus Christ was physically raised from the dead as well as what that would mean for us. What hope does that give us as the church? The reason why I teach on this because that was a pivotal point or the center of Christianity of that time. But it wasn't just because it was the focus of the church that I am preaching on this. I also found, in my own life, that a revelation of this is the power to a brand new life. It actually empowers you to the fruit of the Spirit. It empowers you unto peace. It actually, literally, in your life brings forth the person and the character of God and we can start and share and be, like the Bible says, a kind of first fruit in this world where God starts to manifest and show forth His kingdom in our lives.

Again, I want to say, and I don't want you to confuse what I am saying with the traditional "Kingdom teaching" which is God is a king and there is a kingdom and we are subject of the kingdom and therefore we must now go and expand the kingdom. We have a job to do because we are part of a kingdom. I don't believe in that. What I believe and what I believe the Bible teaches is that Jesus is the King and that His kingdom was placed on the earth in the incarnation, death and the resurrection in the earth and that we are now under that rulership like most of the Kingdom guys believe. But, the difference is this: I don't see that we are to try and advance the Kingdom by our willpower but where God comes and He brings forth a brand new life in us. We then love and we find kindness and goodness in our heart, a passion and a zeal to preach the Gospel that is born from Him. Where we don't try and rule with Him but where He rules in us by His doing through a heart that is persuaded of what He has brought forth.

So many times in church history and I've seen in my time in church since, 25-30 years since I've received the Lord, I have seen so many different moves. Every time we get closer to the truth. Then we get tricked through legalism and the law where it is all about man again and what we must do for God instead of God, through His Spirit, coming and reigning and ruling and Him being the source of a brand new life where the responsibility rests upon God to bring forth a brand new life in us as we trust and believe upon the truth on what He has accomplished in the death and the resurrection of Jesus. Amen

It is very important for me and I think this is the main thrust is the understanding of this message and the belief in this message brings stability to our hearts. It stops us from falling to and fro with every wind of doctrine. It keeps us away from legalism. It keeps us away from living full of the fruit of the flesh and it manifests what God wants us to have in this world free from our effort.

When we look at the message of the resurrection, we don't find that it was basically known in the Old Covenant. You can go and read from Genesis onward. It was not in plain text that there was something like a resurrection. There are many people that argue and say that the resurrection is just something spiritual and it's not something physical. I want to teach you that it **is** physical and Jesus was physically raised. The end goal that God has is to have His justice served which would be our resurrection where even if we have died, we would be raised. Then the Bible says there will be people on the earth that when that day happens they will be changed in a twinkling of the eye. They will not go through death to have this eternal life but their bodies will be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye. They would have the same kind of physicality that Christ has where they can be truly human, truly what God has dreamt for them inside a body that can never be tempted with sin and that can never die, eternally sealed with the life and the goodness of God. Amen

We don't see that message of the resurrection in the old and one might say, "Why, didn't the Old Testament people speak of that?" If we go and look at the Old Testament in Isaiah 25 we find just a little bit of the resurrection as we see it today. Then here and there is mention of the resurrection but the Jews understood that as healing of a city or the healing of a nation or the restoring of a nation. But Jesus Christ came and He revealed to us what resurrection truly is. About 160 BC we find the message of the Maccabean Revolt. What happened there was that there was a group of people that forced the Jews and said to them, "You are not allowed to have religious freedom. You cannot practice your religion." Then a man called John Maccabees 'father started a revolt and started to war against these oppressors. After he died, his son took over and conquered and even conquered Jerusalem and ceremonially cleansed the temple again. Then he basically 'cut the deal' with Rome that they could peacefully live there and practice their religion.

In that time the Pharisees were also coming forth. They started to teach a teaching that talked about the physical resurrection from the dead. It was not about the restoration of a nation, not the restoration of the city, but the physical resurrection from the dead. We can see this when Lazarus was raised from the dead. When Jesus said to Martha, "I am the resurrection." The whole context there was that Lazarus would be raised again in the resurrection. Then Jesus said, "I am that resurrection! I have come to show you that resurrection!" Then they were talking about physical death and the conquering there and Jesus was siding with the logic of Pharisees. We even find Paul, a Pharisee, also defending the teaching of a physical resurrection wherein the end goal is not to leave the earth and have a disembodied soul that lives in heaven somewhere but where the goal is Jesus that died and was raised and how that impacts our life and what the end of that would be.

We need to realize that what Christ did in His resurrection is so powerful that it will affect the cosmos and not just give you a blessed hope that you can go to heaven one day but that it will actually affect the cosmos. We have seen in the Old Testament that there was not a lot written about physical resurrection. We also now find in Jesus how this physical resurrection was declared and revealed and how it actually came to light.

2 Timothy 1:10 But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

Life and immortality came to light through the Gospel which is Jesus who was raised from the dead.

Why is there such a focus on the resurrection? In the last few years we spoke a lot about the resurrection and then in the beginning of this year I said that I am basically **only** going to talk along those lines. Meanwhile, you might ask, "What is the significance of this resurrection?" One lady said to me, "I started to listen to your message on the resurrection. In the beginning I thought, 'Well, Jesus was raised. That's good news but what is its significance. I'm not really bothered so much about that. I do believe that but I have kids to raise and I have things to do. I need a message of encouragement every day.'" She said that as she continued to listen to this, she started to feel the power of it and the significance of it and now there is nothing else that she wants to hear and find the power of God in this truth. We need to realize that the resurrection of Jesus is such a major event that it changed history. It changes everything. It is the birth of something that never was and it will be the only thing and the only truth that would be standing forever and from there everything will find its life. Amen!

In the New Testament, what we have done in the church is we have substituted going to heaven with the message of the early church resurrection. You will find in the Bible, in the writings of Paul and the writings of the Apostles, very little said about going to heaven. It is written that there is a place where Paul said, "I would rather depart and be with the Lord because it is more beneficial for me." We can understand why because he was beaten and whipped and many times he came close to death. He was stoned. He was in a jail many times in the jail sitting in his own feces and that of the others who are jailed there. They were jailed to a wall just sitting there in that cold dungeon. We can understand why he said, "It would be better for me to go and be with the Lord." There is a small mention made of the afterlife of what happens when we die but we don't find a lot of that in the Bible. There is actually so little of it in the Bible that we cannot actually, clearly, say how it would look like when it comes to heaven and what happens when we die.

We find that the Apostle Paul does talk about the afterlife and he refers to it as a sleep. We can see the nature of that sleep as some form of consciousness where Paul clearly says, "I am with the Lord." It's where our lives are safely in the hands of God where, like Jesus said, "Father, My Spirit (My life) I give over into Your hands." Jesus' life was in the hands of God and He died. After He died, what did Jesus do with that life? He restored that life. He created a body that can actually maintain and hold and keep that life that was now in His hands. So, we find that there is an afterlife but what about what happens after that afterlife? That is what Christianity is all about. It's about that resurrection. That is the big thing that came to the early church and that is what I want to speak about. The early church and all their definitions of hope and their definitions of salvation was described by Jesus as being saved from sin and death where we could have eternal life.

That was the introduction and now I want to go to the passage which will be our leading passage in this series from **1Corinthians 15**, verse by verse up to verse 58. This can take many sessions but we are going to go through it and I am going to explain it. As this is settled in our hearts you will start to see the power of God manifesting much more in your life. You will find peace come to the very core of your being. You will also understand so many scriptures and it will just open up to you as you see this truth.

Let us just make this practical before we get into this passage, talking about the afterlife because there might be so many people who are so scared. They are saying, "Bertie, you are just putting the focus on the resurrection. I thought the resurrection was when I die then I will go to heaven. I thought that was the resurrection and now you are saying that the resurrection is actually something that is greater than that and even after that. Tom Wright says that the resurrection is actually the life after the life after death. So when we die there is the life but what the Bible talks about is that life after that life after you died.

Like my mum passed away last November. Where is she? Her life is in the hands of God. That is what the Bible teaches. That is what Proverbs also teaches. That's what Jesus said when He was on the cross but that was not the end goal of God with her life to have her disembodied. That is not what His plan was. His plan was not to have just her life in His hands. His plan was that her life would be inside an immortal body where she can, in this physical world, live His life and share in His quality of life. That was His dream and I want to say to all of you that have lost love ones, and all those who died in Christ, I want to say to you that that is not the end of the story. Death is not the end of the story. There is a resurrection that will take place. Like the one science professor said: "It is almost like when our body is like a computer. When the hard drive packs up, the software, the information that was on that hard drive, was downloaded into another hard drive. That would be like if somebody died, your life is now downloaded into heaven and then a hard drive would be created that cannot crash. Then that software will be downloaded again on to that hardware to forever be like that as God has dreamt from the beginning. Glory to God!

Those of you who have lost loved ones, their life is not lost. Their life is in the hands of God and that life will be fully restored. Why do we cry when we lose loved ones. It's because of what we see when we see their bodies die. Why do we go to doctors? Why do we want to save our physical life? Because of the inherent truth written in each one of us. It has always been God's dream for us to have eternal life. Amen

Today we will look at salvation and define salvation.

1Corinthian 15

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also you have received, and wherein you stand;

2 By which also you are saved, if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain.

He is saying, "I want to declare the Gospel to you. You are already in this Gospel. You believe this Gospel and in the believing of this Gospel you will be saved." It says, ***if you keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless you have believed in vain.***

He is saying, "I want you to continue to believe the Gospel that I preached to you and not turn to another Gospel, lest what we preached to you was in vain and will have no effect on your life." One thing we must realize is that the dynamics of Christianity is, as a person believes something, what he believes in shapes his life. So, as we believe in an accurate Gospel and understand that Gospel, we will find much less effort and much more of God manifesting in our lives by His doing and not by our observance of the laws, rules, regulations or obligations, etc. We will have much more peace as well.

Now he's going to explain the Gospel, the message that saves and then we will define salvation.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

He says that when he looks at the scriptures, he sees that the scriptures, that talk about all the sacrificial animals and all those things, was actually now referring to Christ and His death, how He died for our sins.

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

As I said in the beginning, the Old Testament people didn't talk a lot about the physical resurrection because they were blinded. They didn't understand. They didn't see. The Pharisees and the Sadducees who were all very learned people, were arguing about the afterlife. The Sadducees said there was no such thing as an angel and there wasn't even such a thing as a spirit. When you die, you are just nothing. That's what it all amounts to and that God will establish a kingdom in the earth with people and if it doesn't work with this group of people, He will just use the next one. That is the kind of thing the Sadducees were into.

The Pharisees started to see a little bit of light because they were in this war and people died, physically died, and they were saying that God will have vengeance and He will have His justice served and that would be our resurrection. Then they had some form of a resurrection idea but their idea had a lot to do with the Maccabean Revolt and politics and all those kind of things. But then Jesus came and He declared and showed what this resurrection was actually all about. It was about conquering sin and conquering death free from our works so that His kingdom, His life, His peace, His joy can be in the earth by HIS doing... where He is Lord and we are not Lord, where He is King and we are not the King.

He says that the scriptures spoke about this resurrection and He declares the Gospel as the method of the resurrection.

He goes on and now wants to put an emphasis on this resurrection. What is this resurrection?

5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

(In those next 2 verses he gets a little sidetracked there.)

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.

I want to go back and just cut out verses 9 and 10. I want to read from verse 7 right into verse 12 and you are going to hear something beautiful here.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?

My wife and I were talking about this and it is amazing that we grew up with this understanding, the understanding was not just dying and going into heaven but the understanding was that there will be a resurrection, a manifestation, a form of physicality in this earth where there would be no sin and death. That has always been our understanding even when we weren't saved. That was something that was in our minds but as we go around, as we travel the world, as I go to social media and speak with people, I find that is not the focus of most people's teaching.

Most people's teaching revolves all around heaven and hell. "Are you going to go to heaven today if you die?" That was never asked by the Apostle Paul not even once in any of his writings nor by Peter or James or John. Nowhere in the Gospel was it ever preached, "Who of you want to go to heaven?" It was never preached. The Gospel was, Jesus has conquered sin and He has conquered death and now He has brought to light eternal life and He grants you eternal life. Believe upon Him and as you believe upon Him, His Spirit will enter you and that eternal life will belong to you. You would enter into His victory where He has conquered sin and death. From there the message of holiness was preached where God is the source and the author of holiness in us and where God is the source of a brand new life in us. That is what was preached and sadly, today, I find that, in a broad sense, there is a lot of Gospel being preached, good news, good encouraging messages of "Push through, it's not going to be that bad! Keep on! God is for you. He is not against you!" and those kind of things. Messages of encouragement are preached and it is good to encourage people yet, we cannot do that and neglect THE Gospel, THE Good News which Paul came and declared as the death of Jesus according to the scriptures and then the Very Good News, The Resurrection! We are going to look at this in the third chapter of John.

I want you to know that the resurrection that Paul spoke about was a physical resurrection. The end goal of Christianity is the justice of God, fully served, is a physical resurrection. That resurrection and the form of its physicality was that there were no bones in the grave. Look at the emphasis of Paul when he says, "We could see Him!" It says that Peter saw Him. He said that the twelve saw Him. Then more than 500 people saw Jesus of which most are still alive. Some had already died but some were still alive. You can go to their houses and ask them, speak to them. They would tell you that they saw Jesus.

Jesus came and He clearly explained His resurrection. He said, "Touch Me for a spirit doesn't have flesh and bone." Jesus is not where He is today, a disembodied spirit, neither is He a spirit. Jesus is a full human being. We, today are humans but the fullness of true humanity has not manifested in us for we are still, in some form or fashion, partaking of death in our lives. We are seeing certain things, certain shortcomings, but if you want to ask yourself what a true human looks like, Jesus is that person. And that is your destination and whatever is true in Him is already true in you in the heavens and the Spirit of God will take that truth and bring it forth in the life of the believer. That is why no law of Moses and all those things where we engage human willpower and try to access that life but where it is an absolute gift to us. You will definitely have to listen to this message again.

We are going to look at **John 3** and see what salvation is.

:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The context of this verse is that Nicodemus came and said to Jesus, "Jesus, I know that You are a teacher and that God speaks to you. Do you have something to say to me?" Jesus said, "Nicodemus, you need to be born again." And Jesus likens the new birth to the time when people rejected the manna in Numbers 21 when the snakes came and bit them. There was a snake put on a pole and when they would look on this snake, with an intent to be healed in their flesh, then the poison of the snake would leave their bodies. Those who looked at the snake on that pole would then not physically die anymore. They died later but they were saved from that death of the snake. That was a type and a shadow of what He was talking about and that is the setting and the foundation of John 3:16.

John 3:13 *And no man has ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven.* That is a quote of Proverbs 30:4

14 *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:*

15 *That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal (everlasting) life.*

Can you see how He is speaking to Nicodemus who was a ruler of the Jews. He knew that story so well because back then the Jews rebelled. When they rebelled, then fiery serpents came and bit them. That now draws again on what was taking place in the Garden of Eden where they rebelled against God. They didn't want to have the tree of life which God was giving them. They listened to the voice of the serpent. The voice of the serpent came to them, that poison of the serpent, which was a belief system that says that you can have eternal life by your works and you will not truly die. When they believed that what happened? That death, that belief system, entered them and Adam and Eve died. They physically died.

That is what took place there and now Jesus is coming and addressing the problem that actually happened in the Garden of Eden which was seen as a type and a shadow, again in **Numbers 21** where they did not believe, did not receive the manna, didn't want the manna. They said, "This is light bread. It's nothing! We want something heavier. We don't want this 'easy light' bread. We want something heavier and as a fulfillment of the type and shadow, we want more work. We want more law. We want harder things to do... a heavier and heavier burden!" When they rejected the manna, snakes came and bit them... a type and a shadow again of rejecting the manna and having the poison of the snake in their bodies. What was this poison doing? This poison was killing them. This poison was destroying them. It was physically killing their bodies. Then God said to Moses, "Moses, take a snake and put a snake upon a pole." That pole is where we get the medical cross from as well and also points to the cross of Jesus Christ where the snake was put on a pole where that which brings venom and kills us was crucified. Where Jesus conquered death and that which brings forth death upon the cross so that we cannot perish but have everlasting life. Everlasting life is that which Jesus was risen up into which does not exclude our bodies. It includes our bodies! Amen!

So, what did Jesus conquer? He conquered sin in the flesh. That is why it is of utmost importance to believe on this physical resurrection of Jesus and know that your physical body is included in that because as you believe that, your heart opens up to the salvation of your body and the message of the conquering of sin in the flesh or the shortcoming of the flesh, and you will see the fruit of the Spirit in your body now. Why? Because we are now embracing the message of victory over sin and death in a human body and that is why we can, today, see the fruit of the Spirit. I don't know how to explain this more clearly than what I am doing now.

Let's read it again and just see this more.

14 *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:*

Think of why that snake was on there. It was because) **15** *That whosoever believes in him should not perish* (This word, perish, in the Greek means utterly destroyed or die.), *but have eternal life.*

16 *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

17 *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

We are not in a hurry. We are going to look at that word, saved. It says *that the world through him might be saved*. So if you take that word, saved, Jesus defines salvation here. How does He define salvation? He defines salvation to be saved from death and to have everlasting life. How is this everlasting life defined? We can read what everlasting life is all about in **John 6**. I did it in the Communion message before this. It says here what everlasting life is. He says:

48 I am that bread of life.

49 Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead.

What death is He referring to here? He's referring to physical death right there. Then He says, .

50 This is the bread which comes down from heaven (This is the true manna), that a man may eat thereof, and not die.

51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread (believes in Me), he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

The definition of life here, the definition of eternal life is put on display, vividly made known by the physical resurrection of Jesus. That is called the Gospel, the very Good News. What was the Good News? Jesus died. Imagine when He was crucified and died and then the message went around: Jesus is dead! That would be absolute bad news! But, three days later, Mary Magdalena, out of whom Jesus cast out seven devils, went with the message from the grave, the tomb of, Jesus, and she saw that He wasn't there. He appeared to her and He spoke to her own Hebrew language and called her name, Miryam. He said, "Mary" and she knew it was Him! She ran to the disciples and told them, "Jesus is risen!" That was now what you would now call, "Good News!" That's why Paul calls it, "The Gospel". The Gospel is the message that Jesus was raised from the dead!

He also said that he is not ashamed of the Gospel for this Gospel is the power of God unto salvation... salvation from death and whatsoever leads to death. Should you have believed on this Jesus and this resurrection message and you know that He conquered sin and conquered death, eternal life belongs to you. Since you now have eternal life 'in the bank' even if your body dies, since you have eternal life, justice will be served in your body where your body will be raised up again into the full humanity, the full physicality, that God has promised from before time... what He had in mind for us from before the world began. Glory to God! That's the whole thing. You must just have eternal life. Alleluia! How do we have eternal life? We have eternal life when we believe on what Jesus Christ has done. When we believe the dynamic that the Spirit of life enters us and now that eternal life is now, the Greek word, lambano, grabbed a hold of with the purpose to make use of it.

When the snake was upon the cross, the Bible says that whosoever looked intently, or with intent, an intense look with intent, at that snake, he would be saved from the poison of the snake. If you and your family were bitten by snakes and now there is that pole in the desert, with a snake on it and you run to the pole, what would the intent be when you look at that pole with a snake upon it? The intent would be salvation from death. That's what the intent would be. Now that is likened to the word, believe, in verse **John 3:**

14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

15 That whosoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Remember back then, Numbers 21, Whosoever look with intent, stare with an expectation at that snake there. What would happen to them? They would be saved from death.

Now it says that when we can look at Jesus upon the cross and him dying there and we can say, "In that death, death itself is dying. Death that is in me, is taking me backwards, is dying right there. And as we look with that intent, we find when we see the resurrection of Christ and we look with that intent, what will happen? It says, ***That whosoever believes...*** believes that they will not die, but have eternal life.

I remember there was a group of people, and there still is a group of people preaching today, that those who just continue to look at that, they will right now have immortality. I do believe that as we continue in 1 Corinthians:15 we will see in what order these things are going to take place. Amen

So the whole thing here is that you are going to look with intent to have eternal life. That is the intent. That is the purpose. That is what we grab a hold of. So the cross is not God punishing Jesus so that I can legitimately stand before God so that He doesn't have to punish me. No, that is not what the cross is all about. The cross was all about removing the poison that poisons us, conquering death so that we can see in the resurrection that a man would actually die as us. That He would conquer death so that we can now say that we can now receive this life. So, those who look at the cross and say, "I believe", now that eternal life, the resurrection, God's eternal plan that He had in the beginning with Adam and Eve, with this earth, with this planet, I am now a partaker of that. Eternal life is yours and you shall ***not perish but have eternal life.***

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. Saved from what? Saved means saved from death. That's the whole context here and it finds its foundation in Numbers. Amen! Glory to God.

18 He that believes on him is not condemned: but he that believes not is condemned already...

He is saying that those who don't believe are condemned already just like the people with the snakes back then who didn't look at that cross, the poison was already actively working in them taking them to utmost destruction or perishing. But those who looked upon it, that poison ceased and as we saw that poison cease in our life we find the symptoms of the poison which is hatred, bitterness, sexual immorality, those kind of things stop to cease in our lives and we find the medicine, if you want to call it like that, starting to work in our life and we find love and kindness and generosity, etc. manifest in our lives. Glory to God!

Thank you for listening to this. I know it is theological. It is an in-depth teaching but I trust that as you open your heart and embrace this, you will just see more of what God has done for us. You will understand the Bible better. You will understand the Gospel better and you will see the fruit of God in your life.

Let me just pray for you: I declare to you that you are blessed. You are loved by God. Death has been conquered. Sin has been conquered. You don't, in your power, have to get rid of your addiction. It has been conquered. Look with intent. See Jesus crucified. The death of the poison, the death of works righteousness, the death of the old man. See the resurrected Jesus.

Father, I pray that these people will have enlightened minds to see the dimensions of Your salvation and of Your Gospel so that we, in this world, can see what You can bring forth by Your doing and not ours. I thank You, Father, that You stretch forth Your hand to signs, wonders and miracles. Signs, pointing to the fact that You were raised. You raised Jesus from the dead. I declare to people that have sickness in their bodies: healing over your body, in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Lungs are being healed. Cancer is healed! All forms of sickness. I declare healing to you in the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You ARE the healed! In Jesus' mighty name! Amen and amen!

