

The Power of His Resurrection

INTRODUCTION

- A. Text: PH 3:8-11.
 - 1. Paul acknowledges he had to give up all that was gain to him and count it as loss.
 - 2. He then shows why he had made the choice to do so:
 - a. To *“be found in Him”*; to have *“a righteousness which is from God by faith”*; to *“know Him”*; *“and the power of His resurrection”*; *“and the fellowship of His sufferings”*; *“If by any means I may attain unto the resurrection from the dead.”*
 - 3. All of these are sermons within themselves.
- B. In this lesson we want to center in on the question of *“what is the power of His resurrection?”*
- C. Just what did Paul mean by that and what is the real power of His resurrection?

DISCUSSION

- I. THE RESURRECTION PROVED HIS SONSHIP.
 - A. The personal ministry of Jesus provided proof that He was the Son of God.
 - 1. Jesus often tied Himself to the Father – JN 5
 - a. The Jews sought to stone Him because of this – JN 10:31-38.
 - b. While the miracles showed the relationship to the Father, they didn't prove it beyond doubt.
 - 2. Many were convinced by the things He did.
 - a. Nathanael was convinced – JN 1:49.
 - b. The twelve were convinced – MT 14:33; 16:16.
 - c. The Blind man – JN 9:35, 38.
 - d. Martha – JN 11:27.
 - 3. All of these things were done and written that we might believe – JN 20:30, 31.
 - B. But the crowning proof of His Sonship was the resurrection.
 - 1. It was foretold in O.T. Scriptures – Acts 13:26-37.
 - 2. And this declared Him to be the Son of God with power by His resurrection – RO 1:1-4.
 - 3. All of the miracles of Jesus were great but the resurrection was the greatest of all.
 - a. While others had been raised from the dead through the instrumentality of others, Jesus was the first to be raised unassisted.
 - b. God raised Him directly rather than through one of His servants – cf. EP 1:20.
- II. The Resurrection is the Foundation of the Gospel.
 - A. THE GOSPEL IS THE GOOD NEWS OF SALVATION.
 - 1. While salvation promised to anyone is good news, the proof behind it must be established.
 - B. The gospel consists of facts to be believed, commands to be obeyed, and promises to be received.
 - 1. The facts consist of the preaching of the death, burial and resurrection – 1 CO 15:1-8. Acts 2:22-33– Peter's sermon on Pentecost preached the death, burial and resurrection.
 - 2. The commands demand a reenactment of the death, burial and resurrection – RO 6:3, 4.
 - 3. The promises give hope of our resurrection from the grave – RO 8:11.
 - C. This is why the gospel could not be preached in its fullness until after the resurrection – LK 24:46, 47.

III. THE RESURRECTION MADE THE CHURCH POSSIBLE.

- A. The foundation could not be laid for it until after the resurrection.
 - 1. Jesus the only foundation – MT 16:18; 1 CO 3:11.
 - 2. The apostles were not to preach Him as Christ until after the resurrection – MT 16:20; LK 9:21, 22; MT 17:9. While Jesus was the Christ, He did not proclaim Himself as the Christ.
- B. Jesus indicated that the church would not be built until after His resurrection – MT 16:18.
 - 1. *“The gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”* This meant He would die and enter Hades, but would not be kept there.
 - 2. To build His church He must first die and be raised from the dead. Peter preached this on Pentecost – Acts 2:22-36.
- C. The power of the resurrection is seen in the church.

IV. THE RESURRECTION GIVES US ASSURANCE.

- A. Paul hoped to attain unto the resurrection of the dead. He understood the resurrection gives us promise – Acts 17:30, 31; 1 CO 6:14; 2 CO 4:14.
- B. The fact is, if Christ is not raised from the dead we have no hope – 1 CO 15:13-19.
- C. The power of the resurrection is seen in that it gives us assurance of our own resurrection.

V. THE RESURRECTION GIVES HOPE TO ALL.

- A. The promise made to Abraham – GE 12:3; Acts 3:25, 26; 13:29-33.
- B. Remission of Sins and hope made possible – Acts 5:30, 31; RO 4:23-25.
- C. This was the hope of Israel and the world – Acts 26:6-8; 26:22, 23.
- D. Christ's resurrection from the dead has given hope to the world.

CONCLUSION

- A. This is how powerful the Resurrection of Christ was and is.
 - 1. It proved His Sonship
 - 2. It is the foundation of the Gospel.
 - 3. It provided the sure foundation upon which the church is built.
 - 4. It gives us hope of being raised from the dead.
- B. How powerful has the resurrection been for you?
- C. Why not accept His Sonship, believe the gospel, and let Him add you to His church?
- D. Then you will have hope.