



Empowering People to Change the World

The Purpose of the Resurrection

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We have been going through the book of Matthew, looking at the fact that Jesus was constantly preaching about, proclaiming, and demonstrating the Kingdom of God.

- Matthew 21: I shared on Palm Sunday, last Sunday, that Jesus revealed Himself as a King. Jesus went public. Jesus went viral and He encountered two kingdoms that opposed him: 1) political, and 2) religious.
- Matthew 26: At the Last Supper, at our Seder on Wednesday night, we saw that Jesus announced a New Covenant in His blood. This New Covenant was the *new exodus*, the *new liberty*, the *new kingdom* had come.
- Matthew 27: On Good Friday, Jesus is crucified for being a king. He is not crucified for being a prophet or priest, but because He claimed to be a king. That day is when the kingdom really started!
- Now, we come to the Resurrection! This is the first day of the week, Sunday. Jesus has risen from the grave.

Matthew 28:1-20

God doesn't do anything without a reason for doing it! Why the Resurrection?

- The divine goal of God—originally was to expand His invisible kingdom to the visible earth.
- His vision was to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.
- He originally chose Adam and Eve to carry out His mission—Genesis 1.

“Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”
- God's plan was to make an outpost of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth through His people.
 - A community of kingdom citizens on the earth.
 - To manifest the nature and culture of the kingdom on earth through us.
 - We came from God, placed on earth to be His image on the earth.

- Adam and Eve made a *Declaration of Independence* from God.

Man's *Declaration of Independence* caused three things to happen:

1. We lost the Kingdom of God!

- Adam and Eve were kicked out of Paradise; they lost all the beauty and security of the original outpost of the kingdom.

2. We lost Fellowship with our King.

- Intimacy with God was lost. We replaced it with religion.
- So, we had religion but not a kingdom.
- Religion will never satisfy.
- Religion and the Law can never be fulfilled in your own power.
- If you are thirsty and you eat bread, you are still thirsty.
- If you give yourself what you do not need, you are still thirsty.
- Religion cannot satisfy you!

3. Satan and the powers of darkness took over the earth.

- Lucifer took over as the new sheriff on the earth—he is a murderer, a liar, and he took over and set up his kingdom on the earth.
- So, Cain murders Abel and demonic spirits come and mate with men.

Genesis 6:1-4

“Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they *were* beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.

And the Lord said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he *is* indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.” There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore *children* to them. Those *were* the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown.”

2 Corinthians 4:4

“whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

Ephesians 2:2

‘in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience’

- He comes to kill, steal, and destroy your life.
- But the king has come—John 10:10.

Jesus has come to restore His kingdom to the earth.

- **He modelled the Kingdom through healing, casting out demons, and setting people free.**
- **He established the Kingdom through His death on the cross.**
- **His power of the Kingdom will now come through the Resurrection.**
- **He will now pour out His Kingdom through the Holy Spirit.**

The disciples asked Jesus how to pray and this is what He said,

- Matthew 6:8-12.
- To pray to bring the Kingdom in Heaven down to earth.
- Rome controlled the civilized world at the time of Christ.
- Palestine was a colony of Rome; Caesar was the king over all the colonies.
- Pilate was the governor over the colony of Rome where Jesus was born.
 - Pilate’s job was to be sure that his colony acted right—that it looked like Rome, spoke like Rome, obeyed the laws of Rome, and paid taxes to Rome.
 - “When in Rome do as the Romans do.”
- Jesus was a problem!
- Jesus was not a priest or prophet—that would have not offended anyone. Mohammed came as a prophet. Mohammed never claimed to be a king; Buddha never claimed to be a king.

- **Jesus came as a King!** Remember those kings said: “A king is born in Bethlehem.” Herod got nervous about that! Where is he? I’ll take care of that! He wouldn’t have been nervous if he was just another prophet or priest. No, they said “A King of the Jews is born.”
- Christianity as a religion is weak, because it has reduced Jesus to just being a religious man, a religious leader, so then He competes with Buddha or Mohammed.
- Christ is not religious; He is a King!
- They put him on trial because He said He was a king!
 - The trial began in the wrong courtroom. The court was first a religious court, under a high priest. The high priest has no business putting a king on trial. Jesus didn’t answer him.
 - The trial then went to Pilate and Jesus spoke Kingdom to kingdom.

God wants to regain His kingdom on earth! He came to bring the Kingdom to the earth and He came to leave the Holy Spirit—this could not happen without the resurrection.

Christ came to bring the Kingdom of Heaven to earth and to empower us with the Holy Spirit.

- Jesus preached the Kingdom of God and the coming work of the Holy Spirit as one in the same.
- Study the four Gospels; that’s what He preached.
- They are the same message—the Kingdom of God is coming and the Holy Spirit will lead you, guide you, and empower you!

Prefixes change the meaning of words. It’s a stem, it’s not a word, but you add it to a word and it changes its meaning.

- Com means together/one. Com-pose, to write to bring together.
- Di means two. Vide means one, but divide means two.
- Re means to return to the original. Pent means to think, to the high place (penthouse-high place). So, repent means to take your mind back to the high place of thinking.

- Deem means to own something. Redeem means to own again. Turn go in a direction. Return means you turn around.

Resurrection comes from the Latin to resurge—surge means “to rise up like a fountain.” Resurge means to rise again.

The Resurrection is about receiving restoring what was lost.

God’s Words begin with “re”.

- Restore His Kingdom on earth.
- Return to Me.
- Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.
- Renew your mind.
- Redeem. Christ came to redeem us.

Why the Resurrection?

1. Christ’s Resurrection redeemed us from the power of sin.

- To prove His victory over sin. He had to prove that sin had no more power.
- The power of sin is death (Romans 6). The power of death is sin! They produce each other. You cannot conquer sin unless you conquer death! Resurrection is proof that He overcame sin.
 - a. Jesus had no sin so he couldn’t die. The only way for Jesus to die was to get sin in His body.
 - b. Our sin was placed upon Him. Our sin killed him.

Romans 6:4-9

“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.

For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him.”

2. Christ’s Resurrection Restored the Power of the Kingdom of God to the Church.

Ephesians 1:19-23

“and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

- All demons on earth, principalities, and powers in the fourth dimension are under His feet because of the power of the resurrection.
- All human governments—kings, queens, prime ministers, and presidents are under His power.
- The Church is a Kingdom of God Embassy! We are His Ambassadors!

Ephesians 3:10-11

“to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly *places*, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord”

3. Christ’s Resurrection rewrites your story through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Genesis 2:7

“And the Lord God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”

John 20:19-23

“Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained.”

- The resurrection restores the Spirit. The Spirit is poured out because Christ has defeated all other powers.

Acts 1:8

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

1 Corinthians 4:20

“For the kingdom of God *is* not in word but in power.”

John 14:16-18

“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.”

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

- God so loved you that He gave to you His only Son.
- The Son so loved you that He gave you His kingdom.
- The Son so loved the kingdom that He gave us the Holy Spirit to take the kingdom to the world.