

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN – 3
THE RESURRECTION
MARCH 31, 2024

RESURRECTION SUNDAY 1 COR. 15:16-20 NLT

The message of the empty tomb is the greatest message ever given to the world. It is the crux of our Christian faith. The significance of the Resurrection cannot be overstated. It has great meaning for believers and unbelievers alike.

The Unbeliever

- 1.) It proves the deity of Christ.
 - A.) **ROM. 1:1-4** The Resurrection declares His deity.
 - B.) Lionel Luckhoo, a lawyer (atheist) considered the most successful attorney by the Guinness Book of World Records. When challenged to analyze the Resurrection, he concluded “The evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves no room for doubt.”
 - C.) Jesus appeared to over 500 people (**1 COR. 15:3-8**).
- 2.) It validates His teachings.
 - A.) **MT. 16:21, 17:22-23, 20:17-19** If this is true, then all He taught is also.
 - B.) **JOHN 14:6** He is the only way; **MT. 26:28** His blood remits sin; **JOHN 3:16-17** He didn’t come to condemn; **JOHN 3:36** God’s wrath abides on non-believers; **JOHN 5:28-29** There will be a resurrection of the dead and judgment will follow.
- 3.) It transformed the biggest hater of Christ and Christianity (**ACTS 9:1-6**).

The Believer

- 1.) Testifies to our justification. **ROM. 4:24-25 NLT**
- 2.) Speaks of the power of God in us. **EPH. 1:18-20 NLT**
- 3.) Gives us a living hope. **1 PET. 1:3-5**
- 4.) Empowers us for service. **ROM. 6:4 AMPC**
 - A.) Jesus wasn’t raised to give us a holiday. He was raised to give us power for everyday living. He didn’t come to make bad men good, He came to make dead men live.

If there is no Resurrection 1 COR. 15:13-19 NKJV

Everything we believe is a hoax, a malicious deception. Paul said to eat, drink, and be merry, for tomorrow we die.

Holy Saturday 1 COR. 15:20

From what? The travail of His soul (**IS. 53:9-11**); the pains of death (**ACTS 2:22-24 HCSB**); Hades or Hell (**ACTS 2:27 HCSB, 31-32 HCSB**); The abyss, **ROM. 10:7 (HCSB)**; the place demons fear, **LUKE 8:30-31 HCSB**; Where Satan will spend 1,000 years, **REV. 20:1-3 HCSB**.

Resurrection Sunday MT. 27:50-53, 28:1-2

The first quake opened the graves of dead saints but had no power to bring them out. The second quake brought up Jesus and everyone else whose grave was opened (**ACTS 13:33 NASB**). Jerusalem was flooded with resurrected people declaring that Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life.

Conclusion

We serve a living savior. The graves of Mohammed, Confucius, and Buddha all read “Here lies the remains of”. The grave of our Lord shouts “He’s not here, for He is risen as He said” **MT. 28:6!** Because He lives, our past is forgiven, our present is empowered and our future is guaranteed.

