Grace Baptist (23 Apr 00 Easter), Back to the Bible (17 Mar 01) Dr. Rick Griffith

Crossroads (27 Mar 16 Easter) Single Message

NIV 25 Minutes

**Because He Lives**

Title

***Implications of Christ’s Resurrection (Topical)***

**Topic:** Resurrection

**Subject:** Christ’s resurrection gives you many benefits

**Complement:** so serve Him and He will reward you!

**Purpose:** The listeners will apply the benefits of the resurrection for salvation or obedience in a particular area of their lives.

**Reading:** Luke 24:13-35

# Introduction

### Interest: My two hardest times to preach are Christmas and Easter. You know why? Unpredictable speakers are more interesting, but at these two holidays everyone already knows what I’m going to say!

Christmas & Easter

#### At Christmas everyone knows how I’m going to come out—against Herod and for the Baby Jesus, against Zechariah’s disbelief and for Mary’s simple faith, etc.

Christmas

#### And when Easter comes everyone knows that I’m going to be for the resurrection of Christ and against the soldiers and religious leaders who tried to cover it up.

Easter

### Scope: So what do I say to most of us who already believe in the resurrection of Christ?

Thomas

#### This year I’m not going to explain how Christ’s resurrection came about.

Mary at Tomb

#### I’m also not going to try to prove His resurrection for you.

How did he rise?

#### Instead of explaining the story or proving it, this year we’ll look at the implications of this great event.

So what?

### Need: Do you believe Jesus rose again? What does it mean to you? Tell the person next to you why His resurrection is important to you in the next 30 seconds…

Grave Clothes

### Intro MPI: So what difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life?

Light in Tomb

### Transition: Well, let’s see how…

MP

# I. Christ’s resurrection impacts us in many ways!

[Jesus being alive isn’t just a theological truth but a very practical reality in our lives.]

##  First, Christ’s resurrection gives us a day of worship.

Day of Worship

 [You know why we worship on Sunday? Only because Jesus rose from the dead!]

Why Sunday?

### Maybe you’ve thought that we celebrate Easter on a Sunday because of the resurrection. True, but actually *every Sunday* is a celebration of the resurrection.

Sunrise Worship

### Jesus rose on the first day of the week—Sunday. John writes… (John 20:1).

John 20:1

### Since then Christians have gathered to worship on this day called “the Lord’s day” (Rev. 1:10).

Rev. 1:10

### In fact, in the fourth century under the emperor Constantine Sunday also became a day of rest.

666

Edict

Constantine

#### Constantine originally designated the pagan “Day of the Sun” a weekly holiday, but the pope at that time transferred the rest day from Saturday to Sunday.

Pope

#### Seventh-Day Adventists see us as chipping out Sabbath worship since they see Sunday worship as the Mark of the Beast!

Supported

666

Sunday Chipped

#### But what does the Bible say about Sunday worship? It supports it!

##### Paul waited until Sunday in Troas for the church to worship (Acts 20:7).

Acts 20:7

##### Toussaint notes, “This is the clearest verse in the New Testament which indicates that Sunday was the normal meeting day of the apostolic church. Paul stayed in Troas for seven days (v. 6) and the church met **on the first day of the week.** Luke’s [Vol. 2, p. 413] method of counting days here was not Jewish, which measures from sundown to sundown, but Roman, which counted from midnight to midnight. This can be stated dogmatically because “daylight” (v. 11) was **the next day** (v. 7).

Paul (Toussaint)

##### Probably the church met at night because most people had to work during the day. Because Paul was leaving them, possibly for the final time, he prolonged his discourse **until midnight**” (Stanley Toussaint, “Acts,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary, 2:412-13).*

### During the French Revolution atheistic politicians began to despise Sunday so the whole country was forced into months with three 10-day cycles. People worked nine days, and then had the tenth day off.

French Calendar

French Revolution

#### The infidel Voltaire was prominent in this, saying, “We cannot destroy Christianity until we first destroy the Christian Sabbath.”

#### The change was disastrous! Horses that worked for ten days without rest just broke down in the street. Tan 6204 The plan was abandoned after only 12 years.

### Now many nations of the world acknowledge His resurrection by making Sunday the day of rest. That’s why you have today off!

Shoes

Transition
(2 slides)

(So how does Christ’s resurrection affect us? It gives us a new day of worship. The resurrection also affects us in that…)

## Christ’s resurrection proves that Jesus taught truth.

Truth

 [Since Christ’s empty tomb validates His claims, you have believed facts.]

### Andy Stanley aptly notes, “If a man can predict his own death and resurrection, and pull it off, I just go with whatever that man says.” This sets Jesus apart from any other religious leader!

Difference
(2 slides)

Andy Stanley

### Peter noted on the day the church started that since Christ rose from the dead, He is called “Lord” (Acts 2:32, 36).

Acts 2
Hands

### By defeating death, Jesus proved that He was God, and since God is truth, Christ also is truth. So we can trust what Jesus had to say.

### And what did He say? Jesus made one of His most profound statements in John 14:6—“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me.”

John 14:6

Title

Title

Title

### “A man from another major religion became a Christian in Africa. Some of his friends asked him, 'Why have you become a Christian?' He answered, 'Well, it’s like this. Suppose you were going down the road and suddenly the road forked in two directions, and you didn't know which way to go, and there at the fork in the road were two men, one dead and one alive—which one would you ask which way to go?'” (Story by Dr. Seamands in Warren Webster, April 1980, *HIS*, 13)

Two Roads

(Now what’s another way His resurrection relates to us?)

## Christ’s resurrection gives us forgiveness.

Forgives

 [Your sins are really forgiven in Christ since only God can forgive sin.]

### Jesus died for our sins and was raised for our justification (Rom. 4:25).

Rom 4:25
(2 slides)

#### God in effect said to Jesus, “I approve of your sacrifice for sins, so there is no more penalty for sin that anyone else needs to make.”

Atonement

##### That’s what “justification” means: no more penalty, not guilty.

Finished

##### One scholar put it this way: “Christ’s death was the *payment* for sin, and His resurrection the *receipt*!” (Griffith Thomas, 144).

Passports

Resurrect & Receipt

##### It’s like the expiry of your old passport, riddled with holes. The fact that your past is gone is verified when you get the new passport—complete with all the rights granted to you as a citizen.

• New

##### It was like this with Christ. His death paid for our sins but His resurrection was the proof!

1 Cor 15:17-19

Paul & Jesus

Jesus Hand Holes

#### Christ’s resurrection greatly affects our standing with God (1 Cor. 15:17-19).

#### By rising from the dead, Christ showed he can conquer death. Which religious or political leader has ever died and come back to life? The one that can defeat death is the one that can forgive sin!

##### At the 1982 funeral of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev was a silent protest by Brezhnev's widow. At the end of the elaborate state funeral, his widow stood motionless by the coffin until seconds before it was closed. Then, just as the soldiers touched the lid, Brezhnev's wife performed an act of great courage and hope, a gesture that must surely rank as one of the most profound acts of civil disobedience ever committed: She reached down and made the sign of the cross on her husband's chest.

Brezhnev Coffin

Brezhnev Armies

Brezhnev Close

##### There in the citadel of secular, atheistic power, the wife of the man who had run it all hoped that her husband was wrong. She hoped that there was another life, and that that life was best represented by Jesus who died on the cross, and that the same Jesus might yet have mercy on her husband (Gary Thomas, in *CT*, October 3, 1994, p. 26).

Brezhnev Wife

1 Pet. 1:3

###  In contrast, we now are “born again” in newness of life (1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 6:4).

### People all around us fear they have no forgiveness.

Joss Sticks

#### Why do those living near us use joss sticks and pray to idols of stone and wood? Because of fear—fear they don’t appease even those who loved them in this life!

#### But Christ removes the fear of not being forgiven. Wow! Praise Him for that! A little girl lived near a cemetery and often had to walk through it after dark. When someone asked, "Are you ever afraid?" she said, "Oh, no. My home is just beyond." She had the assurance of her home nearby, so no fear.

Cemetery

Title

Title

Title

Title

#### Just like us. Being forgiven gives us the assurance that we ***will*** see His face!

• “My home”

(And forgiveness reminds me of another benefit of His resurrection…)

## Christ’s resurrection gives us victory over sin in our lives.

Victory

 [Since Jesus had power over sin in His resurrection, so do we!]

### Christ’s resurrection allows us to count ourselves dead to sin (Rom. 6:10-11).

Dead to Sin

Slaves to Sin

#### Ever wonder why unbelievers do dumb things—throw away a marriage, gamble away their hard-earned money or risk their life in reckless sex?

Chained to Screen

#### It’s because they really don’t have a choice—they are slaves to sin.

#### Christ’s resurrection delivers us from being dead in sin to burying that way of life so we can be dead to sin!

• 6:10-11

Diagram

#### Jesus in his resurrection broke the power of sin over us.

Consider Dead

### But sin no longer has control over believers in the resurrection (Rom. 6:14)!

#### Don’t be like the lady who said, "Well, I haven't exactly DIED to sin, but I did feel kind of faint once."

Cartoon

####
We can still sin, so we must consider ourselves dead to it!

Instrument

#### Use your instrument for its purpose.

Rom 6:13

#### Don’t let sin be your master anymore!

No Longer a Slave

Giglio

Rom 6:14

#### Louie Giglio noted, "Sin doesn't make us bad. Sin makes us dead. The gospel doesn't make us better. The gospel makes us alive."

#### This is not due to following any new law but because we are now under grace!

 (Another result of His resurrection relates to our future state—and this is that…)

Body

## Christ’s resurrection will give us a new body in the future.

Bodies
(3 slides)

 [We definitively need new bodies!]

### Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:51 that “we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed”

1 Cor 15:51

Title

### This is sometimes a bit taken out of context!

Baby

### No, this verse means that we shall not all *die* since the bodies of every one of us will be changed in an instant.

Girl

1 Cor 15:52

(And what will our bodies be like?)

### Well, the Bible says that we shall be *like Him* (1 John 3:2).

1 John 3:2

#### While the disciples met behind locked doors, Jesus was able to *walk through walls* after His resurrection (Luke 24:36).

“Peace”

Emmaus

#### Jesus was able to *disappear* after His resurrection (Luke 24:31).

• Disappear

#### You see, Christ is the “firstfruits” of all who will also be resurrected (1 Cor. 15:20). Just as the first ripened crop shows what the rest of the harvest will be like, so will our bodies be like Jesus’ at our resurrection. Someday when these tombs open you will receive a glorified body—because Jesus did.

New body

MPI

(So do you see how practical the resurrection of Christ is for us? We have only looked at five ways—His resurrection gives us a new day of worship, truth to believe, forgiveness and victory over sin, and it will ultimately give us a new body like His. But maybe you still say, “So what?”)

5 Results

# II. How should we live in light of these truths?

MP

#  [1 Corinthians 15:58 gives three ways to respond to the truth about the resurrection…]

## Believe that Christ is alive (1 Cor. 15:58a).

58a

### Some of the Corinthians doubted the resurrection of Christ—and of their own bodies!

### Perhaps someone here also has doubts.

#### Let me assure you that there is more proof for the resurrection of Christ than any other event of ancient history. Study it yourself!

#### Most of those who have tried to disprove it have become believers in a risen Christ!

58b

58c

(Only after you stand firm in this resurrection belief then can you …)

## Serve Him fully (1 Cor. 15:58b).

### I can see why people would give half-hearted commitment to a dead religious leader.

### But can we be half-hearted for one who defeated death itself? He deserves our lives!

#### John G. Paton was a 19th century Scottish missionary to the South Seas. When it was learned that the people that he was going to evangelise were cannibals, one well-meaning church member moaned to him, “The cannibals, the cannibals! You will be eaten by the cannibals!”

Paton

#### He answered, “I confess to you that if I can live and die serving my Lord Jesus Christ, it makes no difference to me whether my body is eaten by cannibals or worms—for in that Great Day of Resurrection, my body will rise as fair as yours in the likeness of our risen Redeemer! “(Green, 303).

(Paul’s third exhortation is to…)

## Work for rewards (1 Cor. 15:58c).

### Perhaps it sounds strange that I would encourage you to serve Christ for rewards. But that’s exactly what the verse says!

### We get rewarded in the more mundane and temporary things of this life—like work. Why should we think that Christ will not reward our service for Him? Certainly He is more generous than your boss!

Title

Title

(So what is God’s message for us this Easter day? Simply that…)

# Conclusion

### Christ’s resurrection gives you lots of benefits, so serve Him and He will reward you (MI). Jesus being alive impacts your life with tremendous blessings—so live for Him and he will repay you!

Main Idea

### Maybe you haven’t really considered the resurrection until today [Gospel].

How to Know

#### People may have told you that you can have a personal relationship with Jesus—and that never made sense to you until today. Perhaps you’ve thought like I used to, “Jesus died 2000 years ago—so how can I know Him?”

#### Well, friend, you *can* know Him! He is as alive today as He was that first Easter morning—and He wants you to know Him personally.

#### Here’s what you need to do—as simple as A-B-C:

##### **A**dmit you are a sinner who wants to turn from your sin.

• A

##### **B**elieve that when Jesus died on the cross He didn’t die for His own sins but for yours.

• C

• B

##### **C**onfess to Him right now that you want Him to save you from the penalty of sin.

##### Pray this: “Lord Jesus, I believe you died for me and are alive today. Thank you for forgiving my sins. Change me into the kind of person you want me to be. Amen.”

Prayer

##### If you prayed that prayer could we ask you to come forward afterward and greet one of us up front so we can help you further?

### In the early 1920s the Communist leader Nikolai Bukharin was sent from Moscow to Kiev to address an anti-God rally. For an hour he abused and ridiculed the Christian faith until it seemed as if the whole structure of belief was in ruins. Then questions were invited. An Orthodox church priest rose and asked to speak. He turned, faced the people, and gave the Easter greeting, "He is risen!" Instantly the assembly rose to its feet and the reply came back loud and clear, "He is risen indeed!" (George Sweeting story in *Today in the Word*, September 1989, p. 8)

• Indeed!

• Risen!

Bukharin

### May I greet you this way and hear your response? I’ll say it and you respond.

#### He is risen!

#### He is risen indeed!

Back to the Bible Dr. Rick Griffith

17 March 2001 Single Message

NIV 25 Minutes + Translation

**Because He Lives**

***Implications of Christ’s Resurrection (Topical)***

**Topic:** Resurrection

**Subject:** Christ’s resurrection gives you many benefits

**Complement:** so serve Him and He will reward you!

**Purpose:** The listeners will apply the benefits of the resurrection for salvation or obedience in a particular area of their lives.

**Reading:** Luke 24:13-35

# Introduction

### [Black Slide] Interest: My two hardest times to preach are Christmas and Easter. You know why? Unpredictable speakers are more interesting, but at these two holidays everyone already knows what I’m going to say!

#### At Christmas everyone knows how I’m going to come out—against Herod and for the Baby Jesus, against Zechariah’s disbelief and for Mary’s simple faith, etc.

#### And when Easter comes everyone knows that I’m going to be for the resurrection of Christ and against the soldiers and religious leaders who tried to cover it up.

### Scope: So what do I say to most of us who already believe in the resurrection of Christ?

#### This year I’m not going to explain how Christ’s resurrection came about.

#### I’m also not going to try to prove His resurrection for you.

#### So instead of explaining the story or proving it, this year we’ll look at the implications of this great event.

### Need: Do you believe Jesus rose again? [Slide] What does it mean to you? Tell the person next to you why His resurrection is important to you in the next 30 seconds…

### Intro MPI: So what difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life?

### Transition: Well, let’s see how…

# I. Christ’s resurrection affects you and me in many ways!

## [Slide] First, Christ’s resurrection gives us a day of worship.

 [You know why you get Sunday off? Only because Jesus rose from the dead!]

### Maybe you’ve thought that we celebrate Easter on a Sunday because of the resurrection. True, but actually *every Sunday* is a celebration of the resurrection.

### [Slide] Jesus rose on the first day of the week—Sunday. John writes… (John 20:1).

### [Slide] Since then Christians have gathered to worship on this day called “the Lord’s day” (Rev. 1:10).

### [Black Slide] In fact, in the fourth century under the emperor Constantine Sunday also became a day of rest.

### Now many nations of the world acknowledge His resurrection by making Sunday the day of rest. That’s why you have today off!

(The resurrection also affects us in that…)

## [Slide] Christ’s resurrection proves that Jesus taught truth.

 [Since Christ’s empty tomb validates His claims, you have believed the truth.]

### [Slide] Peter noted on the day the church started that since Christ rose from the dead, He is called “Lord” (Acts 2:32, 36).

### By defeating death Jesus proved that He was God, and since God is truth, Christ also is truth. So we can trust what Jesus had to say.

### [Slide] And what did He say? Jesus made one of His most profound statements in John 14:6—“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father but by me.”

### [Black Slide] A man from another major religion became a Christian in Africa. Some of his friends asked him, 'Why have you become a Christian?' He answered, 'Well, it’s like this. Suppose you were going down the road and suddenly the road forked in two directions, and you didn't know which way to go, and there at the fork in the road were two men, one dead and one alive—which one would you ask which way to go?'(Story by Dr. Seamands in Warren Webster, April, 1980, HIS, p. 13)

(Now what’s another way His resurrection relates to us?)

## [Slide] Christ’s resurrection gives us forgiveness.

 [Your sins are really forgiven in Christ since only God can forgive sin.]

### [Slide] Jesus died for our trespasses and was raised for our justification (Rom. 4:25).

#### God in effect said to Jesus, “I approve of your sacrifice for sins, so there is no more penalty for sin that anyone else needs to make.”

##### That’s what “justification” means: no more penalty, not guilty.

##### One man put it this way: “Christ’s death was the *payment* for sin, and His resurrection the *receipt!” Griffith Thomas, 144*

####  [Slide] Paul claimed that the resurrection greatly affects our standing with God (1 Cor. 15:17-19).

#### [Black Slide] By rising from the dead, Christ showed he can conquer death. Which religious or political leader has ever died and come back to life? The one that can defeat death is the one that can forgive sin!

##### At the funeral of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev was a silent protest by Brezhnev's widow. She stood motionless by the coffin until seconds before it was closed. Then, just as the soldiers touched the lid, Brezhnev's wife performed an act of great courage and hope, a gesture that must surely rank as one of the most profound acts of civil disobedience ever committed: She reached down and made the sign of the cross on her husband's chest.

##### There in the citadel of secular, atheistic power, the wife of the man who had run it all hoped that her husband was wrong. She hoped that there was another life, and that that life was best represented by Jesus who died on the cross, and that the same Jesus might yet have mercy on her husband (Gary Thomas, in *CT*, October 3, 1994, p. 26).

###  [Slide] In contrast we now are “born again” in newness of life (1 Pet. 1:3; Rom. 6:4).

### [Black Slide] People all around us fear they have no forgiveness.

#### Why do those living near us use joss sticks and pray to idols of stone and wood? Because of fear—fear they don’t appease even those who loved them in this life!

#### But Christ removes the fear of not being forgiven. Wow! Praise Him for that! A little girl lived near a cemetery and often had to walk through it after dark. When someone asked, "Are you ever afraid?" she said, "Oh, no. My home is just beyond." She had the assurance of her home nearby, so no fear.

#### Just like us. Being forgiven gives us the assurance that we will definitely see His face.

 (Another result of His resurrection relates to our future state—and this is that…)

## [Slide] Christ’s resurrection will give us a new body in the future.

 [Some day when these tombs open up you will receive a glorified body—because Jesus did!]

### [Slide] Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:51 that “we shall not all sleep, but we shall be changed”—a bit taken out of context in this slide! No, this verse means that we shall not all *die* since the bodies of every one of us will be changed in an instant.

(And what will our bodies be like?)

### [Slide] Well, the Bible says that we shall be *like Him* (1 John 3:2).

####  [Slide] Jesus was able to *disappear* after His resurrection (Luke 24:31).

#### [Slide] And while the disciples met behind locked doors, Jesus was able to *walk through walls* after His resurrection (Luke 24:36).

#### [Slide] You see, Christ is the “firstfruits” of all who will also be resurrected (1 Cor. 15:20). Just as the first ripened crop shows what the rest of the harvest will be like, so will our bodies be like Jesus’ at our resurrection.

([Slide] So do you see how practical the resurrection of Christ is for us? We have only looked at five ways—His resurrection gives us a new day of worship, truth to believe, forgiveness and victory over sin, and it will ultimately give us a new body like His. But maybe you still say, “So what?”)

# II. [Slide] How should we live in light of these truths?

#  [1 Corinthians 15:58 gives three ways to respond to the truth about the resurrection…]

## [Slide] Believe that Christ is alive (1 Cor. 15:58a).

### Some of the Corinthians doubted the resurrection of Christ—and of their own bodies!

### Perhaps someone here also has doubts.

#### Let me assure you that there is more proof for the resurrection of Christ than any other event of ancient history. Study it yourself!

#### Most of those who have tried to disprove it have become believers in a risen Christ!

(Only after you stand firm in this resurrection belief then can you …)

## [Slide] Serve Him fully (1 Cor. 15:58b).

### I can see why people would give half-hearted commitment to a dead religious leader.

### But can we be half-hearted for one who defeated death itself? He deserves our lives!

#### [Black Slide] John G. Paton was a 19th century Scottish missionary to the South Seas. When it was learned that the people that he was going to evangelise were cannibals, one well-meaning church member moaned to him, “The cannibals, the cannibals! You will be eaten by the cannibals!”

#### He answered, “I confess to you that if I can live and die serving my Lord Jesus Christ, it makes no difference to me whether my body is eaten by cannibals or worms—for in that Great Day of Resurrection, my body will rise as fair as yours in the likeness of our risen Redeemer! (Green, 303).

(Paul’s third exhortation is to…)

## [Slide] Work for rewards (1 Cor. 15:58c).

### Perhaps it sounds strange that I would encourage you to serve Christ for rewards. But that’s exactly what the verse says!

### We get rewarded in the more mundane and temporary things of this life—like work. Why should we think that Christ will not reward our service for Him? Certainly He is more generous than your boss!

(So what is God’s message for us this Easter morning? Simply that…)

# Conclusion

### [Slide] Christ’s resurrection gives you lots of benefits, so serve Him and He will reward you (MI).

### [Black Slide] Maybe you haven’t really considered the resurrection til today [Gospel].

#### People may have told you that you can have a personal relationship with Jesus—and that never made sense to you until today. Perhaps you’ve thought like I used to, “Jesus died 2000 years ago—so how can I know Him?”

#### Well, friend, you *can* know Him! He is as alive today as He was that first Easter morning—and He wants you to know Him personally.

#### [Slide] Here’s what you need to do—as simple as A-B-C:

##### **A**dmit you are a sinner who wants to turn from your sin.

##### **B**elieve that when Jesus died on the cross He didn’t die for His own sins but for yours.

##### **C**onfess to Him right now that you want Him to save you from the penalty of sin.

##### [Slide] Pray this: “Lord Jesus, I believe you died for me and are alive today. Thank you for forgiving my sins. Change me into the kind of person you want me to be. Amen.”

###  [Black Slide] In the early 1920s the Communist leader Nikolai Bukharin was sent from Moscow to Kiev to address an anti-God rally. For an hour he abused and ridiculed the Christian faith until it seemed as if the whole structure of belief was in ruins. Then questions were invited. An Orthodox church priest rose and asked to speak. He turned, faced the people, and gave the Easter greeting, "He is risen!" Instantly the assembly rose to its feet and the reply came back loud and clear, "He is risen indeed!" (George Sweeting story in Today in the Word, September, 1989, p. 8)

### May I greet you this way and hear your response?

#### He is risen!

#### He is risen indeed!

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

# Questions

### So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit” (1 Cor. 15:45; Eph. 2:4-5).

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

Text

# Possible Illustrations

### Scope: So what do I say to most of us who already believe in the resurrection of Christ?

#### This year I’m not going to explain how Christ’s resurrection came about.

##### Two Easters ago we saw in John’s gospel that even though Jesus was definitely dead, women came to the tomb Sunday morning and discovered that His body was gone!

##### If you want a refresher on the events of the resurrection, check out the cassette tape from our library.

#### I’m also not going to try to prove His resurrection for you. We did that in 1999 and 1996, looking at evidences that Jesus really did rise.

##### Certainly the guards didn’t take his body—nor did the disciples, nor did the Jewish leaders.

##### If anyone wanted to disprove the resurrection they only had to produce the body! No, he rose!

#### So instead of explaining the story or proving it, this year we’ll look at the implications of this great event.

### As Vice President, George Bush represented the U.S. at the funeral of former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev. Bush was deeply moved by a silent protest carried out by Brezhnev's widow. She stood motionless by the coffin until seconds before it was closed. Then, just as the soldiers touched the lid, Brezhnev's wife performed an act of great courage and hope, a gesture that must surely rank as one of the most profound acts of civil disobedience ever committed: She reached down and made the sign of the cross on her husband's chest. There in the citadel of secular, atheistic power, the wife of the man who had run it all hoped that her husband was wrong. She hoped that there was another life, and that that life was best represented by Jesus who died on the cross, and that the same Jesus might yet have mercy on her husband (Gary Thomas, in *CT*, October 3, 1994, p. 26).

Genuine Court transcripts…

Q: Doctor, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?

A: All my autopsies are performed on dead people.

---------------------------------------------------

Q: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

A: No.

Q: Did you check for blood pressure?

A: No.

Q: Did you check for breathing?

A: No.

Q: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

A: No.

Q: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

A: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

Q: But could the patient have still been alive nevertheless?

A: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law somewhere.

**Because He Lives**

***Implications of Christ’s Resurrection (Topical)***

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest: The two hardest times to preach are Christmas and Easter. You know why? I was taught that unpredictable speakers are more interesting, but at these two holidays everyone already knows what I’m going to say.

### Scope:

#### I’m not going to explain how Christ’s resurrection came about.

#### I’m not going to try to prove His resurrection for you.

#### Rather, we’ll look at the implications of this great event.

### Need: Do you believe Jesus rose on the third day? But does it mean anything to you? What? Have you thought about why the resurrection of Christ is important to you?

### Subject: What difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life? How would your life be any different if He didn’t come back to life?

### Preview: Today we’ll see ways that Christ’s resurrection affects you—and how you should respond to this fantastic event.

### Transition: So let’s see first how…

# I. Christ’s resurrection affects you in many ways!

## Christ’s resurrection gives us a day of worship.

## Christ’s resurrection gives us truth to believe.

## Christ’s resurrection gives us forgiveness.

## Christ’s resurrection gives us victory over sin in our lives.

## Christ’s resurrection gives us assurance of a new body in the future.

# II. How then should we live?

## Believe that Christ is alive (1 Cor. 15:58a).

##  Serve Him fully (1 Cor. 15:58b).

## Work for rewards (1 Cor. 15:58c).

# Conclusion

### Christ’s resurrection gives you many benefits, so obey Him with confidence and victory over sin (MI).

### Gospel presentation

### Closing illustration

# Sources:

1. Bilezikian, *Christianity 101*, 77-78.
2. Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 614-16.

**Because He Lives**

***Implications of Christ’s Resurrection***

**Small Group Question: What difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life? What implications of Christ being alive today can be gleaned from the passages below?**

# I. Christ’s resurrection affects you in many ways!

## Christ’s resurrection gives you a new day of worship.

### John 20:1, 19, 26

### Acts 20:7

### Rev. 1:10

## Christ’s resurrection proves that Jesus taught truth.

### Acts 2:32, 36

### John 14:6

## Christ’s resurrection gives you forgiveness.

### Rom. 4:25

### 1 Cor. 15:17-19

### 1 Pet. 1:3

## Christ’s resurrection gives you victory over sin in your life.

### Rom. 6:10-11

### Rom. 6:14

## Christ’s resurrection gives you assurance of a new body in the future.

### 1 Cor. 15:51

### 1 John 3:2

### Luke 24:31, 36

### 1 Cor. 15:20

# II. How then should you live?

## Believe that Christ is alive (1 Cor. 15:58a).

## Serve Him fully (1 Cor. 15:58b).

## Work for rewards (1 Cor. 15:58c).

# Conclusion

### Christ’s resurrection gives you lots of benefits, so serve Him and He will reward you! (Main Idea)

### Which of the five results or implications of the resurrection means the most to you?

### How will you respond? What specifically can you do to show that Christ being alive today is something you genuinely believe?

**Because He Lives**

***Implications of Christ’s Resurrection***

**Small Group Question: What difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life? What implications of Christ being alive today can be gleaned from the passages below?**

# I. Christ’s resurrection affects you in many ways!

## Christ’s resurrection gives you a new \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

### John 20:21

### Rev. 1:10

## Christ’s resurrection proves that Jesus taught \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

### Acts 2:32, 36

### John 14:6

## Christ’s resurrection gives you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

### Rom. 4:25

### 1 Cor. 15:17-19

### 1 Pet. 1:3

## Christ’s resurrection gives you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ over sin in your life.

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Crossroads International Church Dr. Rick Griffith

Title

2016 Message of 20

NLT 40 Minutes

**Title**

***Matthew 5***

**Topic:**

**Subject:**

**Complement:**

**Purpose:** The listeners will

**Attribute:** We worship the God of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Reading:**

**Song:**

**Introduction**

# Preliminary Questions

**Verses Questions**

# Context: What did the author record just prior to this passage?

# Purpose: Why is this passage in the Bible?

# Background: What historical context helps us understand this passage?

# Questions

# Tentative Subject/Complement Statements

Text

# Possible Illustrations

### Text

# Possible Applications

### Text

# Life of Christ Outline of Christ's Authority to Interpret the Law

**§§ 54-56**

# *Exegetical Idea*: In response to the crowds' interest in the righteousness necessary for kingdom entrance, Christ's Sermon on the Mount shows the holiness of God by teaching the characteristics of the kingdom's subjects, His superiority over the Law, and instruction to those entering the kingdom in order to discredit Pharisaic righteousness and to offer Himself as the sole basis for kingdom entrance (Matt 5:1–7:29; Luke 6:17-42).

# *Exegetical Idea*: The traits of those who trust Christ as King in the Sermon on the Mount are holiness and trust in Christ’s authority over the Law and oral tradition (Matt 5:1–7:29; Luke 6:17-42).

# I. The Subjects of the Kingdom § 54: People entering Messiah's kingdom should show holiness instead of mere Pharisaical observances (Matt 5:1-16; Luke 6:17-26).

## The response a holy believer should have to the benefits and persecution related to trusting Christ as King is joy (Matt 5:1-12).

### The setting of the sermon shows Jesus taking the role of a rabbi to teach the disciples the response of those embracing him as king (Matt 5:1-2; Luke 6:17-19).

#### Jesus saw the crowds and sat down on a mountainside (1a).

#### Jesus began teaching his disciples who showed initiative to listen (1b-2).

### The benefits of trusting Christ as King are many (Matt 5:3-11; Luke 6:20-26).

#### *Depending on God* leads to a **rich experience of life** (5:3).

#### *Admitting our needs* leads to **receiving God’s comfort** (5:4).

#### *Humility* now brings **honor in the millennial kingdom** (5:5).

#### *Holiness* gives a **deep satisfaction** in life (5:6).

#### *Showing mercy* to others leads to **receiving mercy from God** (5:7).

#### A *pure lifestyle* results in **seeing God in our lives** today (5:8).

#### *Making peace* with others enables us to **be God’s channel** (5:9).

#### *Persecution for Christ* gives us a **rich experience of life** (5:10-11).

### The response a believer should have towards persecution is joy over his heavenly reward and identification with persecuted OT prophets (5:12).

## The way believers should bless others is to direct them to God (Matt 5:13-16).

### The way believers should bless others is by helping them hunger for God (5:13).

#### Christians function like salt to create hunger for God in others (5:13a).

#### Christians who don’t create a hunger for God in others are useless (5:13b).

### The way believers should bless others is by helping them praise God by the good works they do (5:14-16).

#### Christians are lights to show people to God (5:14a).

#### A city on a hill and a lamp help others see the way to go (5:14b-15).

#### Be “light” through good deeds to help others praise God (5:16).

# II. The Relation of the King to the Law § 55: Christ rejects the Pharisaic views of the law that the disciples might know the proper type of righteousness necessary to enter the kingdom (Matt 5:17–7:6; Luke 6:27-42).

## The way believers will be rewarded is by obeying and teaching the true spirit of Old Testament until all it says about Jesus comes true (5:17-20).

### The time the OT will disappear is when all it prophesies about Jesus comes true (5:17-18).

#### Jesus came to fulfill the OT rather than abolish it (5:17).

#### The OT won’t disappear until every prophecy about Christ is fulfilled in the eternal state (5:18).

### The way believers will be rewarded is by obeying and teaching the true spirit of Old Testament (5:19-20).

#### Our level of millennial rewards depends on practicing and teaching the true spirit of Old Testament (5:19).

#### We won’t even enter the millennium apart from internal holiness in Christ rather than external piety of the Pharisees (5:20).

## Christ rejected the Pharisaic righteousness as unable to bring one into the kingdom to teach that the second table of the law demanding proper conduct towards others should also be followed (Matt 5:21-48).

### **Murder**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not only preserve life but will avoid the anger, hatred and poor relationships that eventually lead to murder (Matt 5:21-26).

### **Adultery**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not only be faithful to his spouse but will shun the lust that causes adultery (Matt 5:27-30).

### **Divorce**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not only never divorce his wife without legal documentation but will never divorce his wife at all lest this cause her and her future husband to both commit adultery when she remarries (Matt 5:31-32).

### **Oaths**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not only take oaths when affirming something which could be taken in more than one way but will have trustworthy speech at all times so oath-taking becomes unnecessary (Matt 5:33-37).

### **Retaliation**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not demand his right for retaliation but give up such rights as a characteristic of righteousness and godliness (Matt 5:38-42).

### **Love**: One surpassing Pharisaic righteousness will not only love his neighbor who will repay favors but will love his enemy as well who will never repay favors (Matt 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-30, 32-36).

## Christ rejected six Pharisaic practices of the law that misconstrued its real intent to instruct why Pharisaic righteousness is not able to bring one into the kingdom since their hypocritical practices were directed man-ward for a reputation of piety rather than God-ward in true righteousness (Matt 6:1–7:6; Luke 6:37-42).

### Almsgiving: Public almsgiving of the Pharisees is repudiated for being performed to **demonstrate** piety rather than to demonstrate the love of God by meeting a need (Matt 6:1-4).

### **Prayer**: Public prayer of the Pharisees for human approval is repudiated for being performed to demonstrate piety and private prayer is encouraged which includes worship, supplication for God's work and personal needs, confession, prayer for protection and a forgiving spirit (Matt 6:5-15).

### **Fasting**: Public fasting of the Pharisees is repudiated for being performed to demonstrate piety rather than done privately before God to receive reward only from Him (Matt 6:16-18).

### **Eternal Investments**: Hoarding wealth as a sign of God's approval by the Pharisees is repudiated for being only temporary and making eternal investments is encouraged since they last into eternity and cannot be lost (Matt 6:19-24).

### **Worry**: Lack of faith by the Pharisees shown in trusting accumulated money is repudiated by an encouragement to replace worry about food and clothing with trust in God's daily provisions as one seeks the kingdom's arrival (Matt 6:25-34).

### **Judging**: Setting oneself up as judges and as the standard of judgment of the Pharisees is repudiated for being performed by claiming knowledge of the motive behind the action whereas God's righteousness demanded that one not judge until his own life has been purified (Matt 7:1-6; Luke 6:37-42).

# III. Instruction to Those Who Would Enter the Kingdom § 56: Christ knew that, in spite of the Pharisees' rejection, some would receive His teaching and would want to know how to enter the kingdom so He instructs those who desire to enter the kingdom in some pertinent areas (Matt 7:7-29).

## **Persistent prayer** will be answered because of God's nature as a Father makes sure His children's needs are met, not because of the endless repetitions of the Pharisees (Matt 7:7-12; Luke 6:31, 43-45).

## **The invitation to receive Christ** and enter the kingdom is given by declaring that He alone is the true, narrow way of access, not the false, broad way of the Pharisees that ultimately ended in exclusion from the kingdom and destruction (Matt 7:13-14).

## **False prophets** like the Pharisees have unrighteous lifestyles and will be judged because, while outwardly they fulfilled the requirements of the law, inwardly they lacked the relationship with the King that was the requisite for entrance into the kingdom (Matt 7:15-23).

## **Another invitation** to reject Pharisaism and accept Christ is given in a contrast between one who accepts the King's word and trusts His person and one who rejects His words and person, thus revealing that the destiny of those who hear Christ's words would be determined by their response to His message (Matt 7:24–8:1; Luke 6:46-49).

**Title**

***Matthew 5***

**Exegetical Outline (Steps 2-3)**

# *Exegetical Idea*:

# I.

# II.

# III.

**Purpose or Desired Listener Response (Step 4)**

The listeners will

**Homiletical Outline** (Cyclical inductive form)

# Introduction

### Interest:

### Need:

### Subject:

### Background:

### Preview:

### Text:

(Transition into MPI here.)

# I.

[Restate MP here.]

(Transition into MPII here.)

# II.

[Restate MP here.]

(Transition into MPIII here.)

# III.

[Restate MP here.]

(Transition into the MI here.)

# Conclusion

###  (MI).

### Main Points

### Exhortation/Application



**Rick Griffith**

27 March 2016

Resurrection Sunday

**Resurrection Implications**

***Because He Lives!***

# Introduction

### Do you believe Jesus rose again? What does it mean to you?

### So what difference does Christ’s resurrection make in your life?

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## Christ’s resurrection gives us a new day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

### John 20:21

### Rev. 1:10

## Christ’s resurrection proves that Jesus taught \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

### Acts 2:32, 36

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## Christ’s resurrection gives you assurance of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the future.

### 1 Cor. 15:51

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# II. How then should you live?

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## Serve Him fully (1 Cor. 15:58b).

## Work for rewards (1 Cor. 15:58c).

# Thought Questions

### Christ’s resurrection gives you lots of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, so serve Him and He will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ you! (Main Idea)

### Which of the five results or implications of the resurrection means the most to you? Why?

### How will you respond? What specifically can you do to show that Christ being alive today is something you genuinely believe?

Download this sermon PPT and notes for free at BibleStudyDownloads.org/resource/new-testament-preaching/ under the Romans 4:25 section