

**The Family Prayer Center
615 Nassau Street
Immokalee, Fl. 34142**

April Letter 2022 - The Resurrection

Dear Friend,

Jesus declared to Martha, the sister of his friend Lazarus, these words in John chapter 11.

John 11:25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

Jesus did not just say that He had resurrection life in Himself, but rather that he **WAS THE RESURRECTION**. There is a big difference. He was actually declaring that He had come from God to become the resurrection of mankind from spiritual death. This statement was made before the event even took place.

There was coming a time in the near future for Jesus in which His death and physical resurrection would declare to the entire world the power that the Father had given Him over spiritual death for all mankind.

John 10:17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

John 10:18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

Jesus had received from His Father a commandment and a promise that if He would lay His life down in both physical and spiritual death, He would also have the power to once again take it up in the resurrection.

All of human history is predicated on two events – the birth of Jesus, and the resurrection of Jesus. Without the birth, there is no possibility of the resurrection, but without the resurrection, the birth is meaningless.

From the first man Adam until the last Adam (Jesus), the whole human race was spiritually dead. For 4000 years since the fall of Adam in the garden until the coming of the Resurrection (Jesus), mankind had lived under the dominion of spiritual death.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.

When Jesus stated, “I am the resurrection,” He was not only speaking about His future resurrection, but the power and authority that He had to set all mankind free from spiritual death.

The death of Jesus is broken down into two parts. The death that Jesus suffered on earth in physical death through the crucifixion was only the first part of the death of Jesus. The second part of His death was the spiritual death that He suffered in Hell, condemned under the penalty of the sins of all mankind. If there were no crucifixion and physical death, then there could be no spiritual death. If there were no spiritual death, then there was no possibility of our resurrection from the power of spiritual death.

2 Cor 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Jesus not only carried our sins, He became our sins. The death of the physical Jesus was only part of our resurrection. The death of the spirit of Jesus was absolutely necessary for our redemption.

Peter preached on the day of Pentecost about Jesus' resurrection from spiritual death and the confinement of Hell.

Acts 2:23 Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:

Acts 2:24 Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Acts 2:25 For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved:

Acts 2:26 Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope:

Acts 2:27 Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Jesus Himself spoke of the days that He would suffer in Hell for our redemption.

Mat 12:40 For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

If Jesus is telling us that Jonah was a picture in the natural of His own spiritual confinement in Hell, then it would be good for us to see what Jonah had to say about Christ's experience.

Jon 2:1 Then Jonah prayed unto the LORD his God out of the fish's belly,

Jon 2:2 And said, I cried by reason of mine affliction unto the LORD, and he heard me; out of the belly of hell cried I, and thou heardest my voice.

Jon 2:3 For thou hadst cast me into the deep, in the midst of the seas; and the floods compassed me about: all thy billows and thy waves passed over me.

Jon 2:4 Then I said, I am cast out of thy sight; yet I will look again toward thy holy temple.

Jon 2:5 The waters compassed me about, even to the soul: the depth closed me round about, the weeds were wrapped about my head.

Jon 2:6 I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bars was about me for ever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption, O LORD my God.

Jon 2:7 When my soul fainted within me I remembered the LORD: and my prayer came in unto thee, into thine holy temple.

Jonah used words that prophetically described the experience that Jesus would suffer in His spiritually dead state in Hell. Descriptions like, “out of the belly of Hell I cried...for thou hadst cast me into the deep,” and “I went down to the bottoms of the mountains; the earth with her bar was about me forever: yet hast thou brought up my life from corruption.”

There is no doubt that Jesus experienced extreme torment and separation from God in a place of everlasting confinement called Hell. No man that has ever gone there by penalty of his own sins has ever escaped. Yet Jesus was not there because of His own sins, but because of yours and mine. One distinct truth remained in the heart of Jesus during those days of torment. He knew that it was impossible to deliver Himself, but He had received a promise from His Father. The Father had promised that He would not forget His son or leave His soul in Hell.

Psa 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

There has never been a sci-fi movie that could ever depict the horror that Jesus suffered for approximately three days during His confinement in Hell. Pastor Dave Roberson once saw a vision of a man lying on his back in the flames of Hell with his hands extended upward, crying out to God for deliverance. When he inquired of God what it was that he was seeing, the Lord told him that this was his Savior (Jesus) during His time in Hell paying the price for mankind.

There is no amount of thanksgiving that is ever enough to repay Him for the incredible price that He paid for our salvation.

The good news is that when the debt was paid, God brought Him up in spiritual life and in a physical resurrection!

Col 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Some preachers like to preach that there was some kind of physical wrestling match in Hell between Jesus and Satan that resulted in Jesus' victory and physical resurrection, but this is simply not true. The open display of Jesus' power over principalities and powers is in the physical resurrection of Christ on the third day. This record of His resurrection was recorded by all four Gospels and witnessed by over 500 people at one time. This openly declared His power over Satan to no longer hold the human race in spiritual death.

1 Cor 15:4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

1 Cor 15:5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

1 Cor 15:6 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.

This month we will celebrate Easter. It is a time to remember the Lord's resurrection from both physical and spiritual death. Jesus not only was resurrected, but BECAME THE RESURRECTION FOR ALL MANKIND!

Candy and I love you so much and we pray blessings on you during this holiday season. Thank you for all you do in helping us go forward in this ministry.

Blessings,
Pastor Bronc