

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is center stage of Christianity. Not only did Jesus die for our sins on the Cross, but He rose three days later and defeated death. He appeared to the apostles and over five hundred witnesses shortly after His death on the Cross and His burial in the cave. When we as Christians place our faith in Jesus, we are crucified with Him and we are no longer slaves to sin. When we die as Christians, we will be resurrected with Christ. No other religion can claim their “god” is alive, that their “god” has defeated death, that their “god” has paid the penalty for sins which is death, and that their “god” continues to fulfill prophecies according to Scripture. Our God is alive and all powerful. Our God is God.

- 1 Cor 15:3-8 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.
- Rom 6:5-7 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.
- 1 Cor 15:12-19 Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. For if *the* dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.
- Acts 13:30-31 But God raised Him from the dead. He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people.
- 1 Cor 15:42-44 So also *is* the resurrection of the dead. *The body* is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.
- Phil 3:10-11 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Discussion Item 1: *What does it mean to die with Christ?*

Discussion Item 2: *What does the power of His resurrection mean to you?*

Life Application: *Apply the resurrection in your life to overcome sin. Apply the resurrection to say no to sin and tell others what Jesus has done.*

Helpful Definition:

resurrection – The rising again of Jesus on the third day after the Crucifixion. (*Webster*)

Notes:

Proverb 5:11 And you mourn at last, When your flesh and your body are consumed,

Psalms 20:8 They have bowed down and fallen; But we have risen and stand upright.