

Jesus STILL Lives HALLELUJAH!

(Easter) (Easter)

Title:

Why is the Resurrection of Jesus really important?

Is it up to  
to believe in  
resurrection?

Text:

I Corinthians 15:12-19 also Matt 28: 5-6

Take your Bibles and let's turn together to I Corinthians chapter 15. I Corinthians chapter 15 beginning with verse 12.

(I Cor. 15:12-<sup>19</sup>~~20~~)

PRAYER

There was a problem in Paul's day that is certainly contemporary in this day. Some <sup>Falsely</sup> ~~were~~ <sup>were</sup> saying that there was no resurrection from the dead. And it was easy for them to say this in Corinth. They were a part of a Greek pagan society. And I don't know if you have noticed or not, but the resurrection of your body was a foreign concept to a Greek mind. The Greeks <sup>a Lit Paul</sup> could not understand the resurrection of the body.

and

They

Now, <sup>These folks in their</sup> in their Greek mythology and religious thinking they talked about man's spirit being set free and going outside the body for various experiences. But they could never believe in the resurrection of the body. They saw the body as important to this life. They developed the Health spas. I don't know if they had racket clubs, but they developed the health spas. They were gun-ho on the body. Athletics were <sup>Lit Paul</sup> big to the Greeks. They glorified the body. But to say that there is going to be a resurrected body in the future was meaningless to them.

Paul entered into that society on his second missionary journey. And in that society of those who were supposedly believing in Jesus, there were people who were saying that there isn't any resurrection of the body. <sup>and certainly</sup> <sup>Did NOT</sup> <sup>basically</sup>

I would like you to turn over to 2 Timothy chapter 2 and I would like you to see that this was a common problem. Here Paul writes to Timothy concerning two Greek pagan teachers at the city of Ephesus and what they ~~were~~ were saying. 2 Timothy chapter 2 verse 17 says... "and their talk"... talking about worldly and godly people... "and their talk will spread like gangrene.

and

<sup>Among</sup> Among them are HY'MEN'KNEE' US and FIL'LE'TUS." "Men who have gone astray from the truth saying that the resurrection has already taken place, and thus <sup>They upset the faith of some!</sup>

So, you see it was a problem in the society of that day. <sup>well saying</sup> They said that the resurrection was already passed. <sup>Now</sup> That would fit in well with the worldly view. They could easily argue that, as some people argue today. There are churches that we call liberal in theology who believe that the point of the resurrection is: when you come to believe in Christ you are only spiritually resurrected. There is nothing else that follows. The important thing is to try to live for the Lord, now.

It certainly is important to live for the Lord, now. But that is not the issue of the Gospel. <sup>The issue of the Gospel is that Jesus literally died</sup> ~~There is going to be a future bodily resurrection,~~ according to the Bible. <sup>Came back to life</sup>

So, they were arguing in that day that ~~it has already happened.~~ <sup>The resurrect was not literal</sup> It is ~~already passed.~~ <sup>They were teaching that a conversion when you are saved, that as the name of the new</sup> Whether they believed that the spirit was going to be set free from the body, or whether they thought that meant conversion and that is all that it was. Paul is saying..NO...After we die physical, <sup>Jesus died - and body arose</sup> there is coming a <sup>from the dead</sup> bodily, physical resurrection. And this will make a great difference in our lives if we really believe it. Which I hope you will understand before we are finished today.

So, there was a problem. And <sup>that makes us think here to</sup> there certainly is a problem in our day.

Turn over to Acts chapter 17 and let me illustrate the ~~probem~~ again. In Acts 17 Paul moved into Greek society when he came to Athens. Half the people in Greece still live in Athens. It is a major metrophonton city. And in this city of the philosophers Paul stood on a little hill called Mars Hill <sup>and</sup> lectured the people. The people ~~of~~ of Athens liked new ideas. And so Paul spoke on that hill to some ~~philosophers~~ // They were stoic and Epeacreans philosophers. These two groups were different in their understanding of life. But they both felt that what counts is NOW.

The Stocs said, let's live disciplined lives so we can enjoy life now. The Epecreans said, "WHAT IS THE USE. Let's eat drink and be merry for tomorrow we die." Frankly, I believe their philosophy was more correct. If there <sup>is</sup> was no life after death, and if there is no resurrection, it is more logical to be an Epicrean.

But in Acts chapter 17 it says this in Vs 18 "And also some of the Epicureans and Stoic philosophers were conversing with him. And some were saying, "What would this idle babbler wish to say?" Others, "He seems to be a proclaimer of strange deities," - because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection."

You know, they were so mixed up in their society with many gods that they thought the very word "resurrection" was simply the name of another god. Totally confused. And this shows you the point that I am making. That in that day there were very few that could by way of logical thought accept the bodily resurrection from the dead. They just could understand that. It wasn't a part of their thinking.

And there are a lot of people today who look at you in the same way. And they wonder <sup>How</sup> in the world you can believe in a bodily resurrection. That seems so foreign. Because society today in its existentialism is definitely geared to experience. What is important is now. Here and now is where it is at. Do you think and enjoy yourself for that is all there is. That is American society. It was also the society of Paul's day. And into that society came this message. And it needs to be said in our day also.

So, let's take a look at the reasons why the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the resurrection of our own body in the future is so very, very important to us.

Let's turn back to I Corinthians 15. And I would like you to notice that Paul repeats a phrase or an argument.

In Vs 13 he says, "if there is not resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain and our faith is vain."

Now, look at verse 16..."if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins."

Do you follow? In other words, Paul is repeating the argument. ~~WHAT?~~ Well, for emphasis, first <sup>all</sup>. But what he is saying is: and don't miss this,

That you cannot establish a universal negative, if there is one fact to the contrary. Now, that would appeal to the Greek mind. They were very logical, they followed philosophy,...

So, Paul is saying, "Hay! you say that there is no resurrection from the dead. And if that is true then you are saying that Christ never arose from the dead." You see, you cannot establish a universal negative, if there is one fact to the contrary. And those Greeks would have sat there and said in our phrasiology: HEAVY...HEAVEY...

And Paul is going to show them why that is so. He is going to show them why it is so very, very important. And what he is saying is one of the most contemporary things for our society which has totally eliminated the future. Isn't it interesting that in all the discussions about life after death in all those books about OUT OF BODY EXPERIENCES that people talk about are all "out-of the body experience"...

No! I am not being redundant for redundant sake. I said that for a reason. In all of the discussions about what are the after death experience, isn't it ~~interesting~~ interesting that non-of them are dealing with the resurrection of the physical body. It is like a Satanic counterfeit, you know. Always counterfitting what the Bible is really saying.

The out-of Body experience are just that. They are out..of..the body.. And the great truth of the Christian hope is that we have a physical bodily resurrection, awaiting us in the future. All resting and dependent upon and guaranteed by the physical, bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ.

And today, as well as all the way through history, the number one theological point among those who do not believe the Bible, but want to maintain the name christian, is to re-interpret the bodily resurrection of Christ to be not physical or bodily. To be spiritual only.

Christ has come into your heart, you have been raised from the dead, ~~the Bible teaches that, it is true,~~ therefore, there isn't anything else coming. The important thing is to learn now to live NOW. And not to think about the future. ~~Because~~ Because every body knows that if you become so heavenly minded you will be no earthly good.....RIGHT!.....Wrong.....

That statement did not come out of the Bible. It came from Hell itself. The truth is that if you really become heavenly minded, you will be of great earthly good. But that is another subject.

Let's take a look at the 7 reasons for the resurrection.

(1) Number one, preaching is vain. Vs 14

You <sup>say</sup> ~~said~~, I know that. We are wasting our time. Let's all go home. (ha) That really is the truth, people. Preaching is a waste of time, if ~~there is~~ <sup>Jesus</sup> ~~no resurrection~~ <sup>did not come back</sup> from the dead.

Do you think for one minute, if I didn't believe in the resurrection of Christ, that I would waste my time up here? Are you kidding! No way.. I would simply fall into Epicureanism. I mean, Let's have a ball. Why not? There is nothing coming. I mean, why waste ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> time up here preaching every Sunday about something that I really didn't believe. That is ridiculous.

Yet, you and I both know that there are people all over this town continuing to play church like ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup>, aren't they?

We should come down to earth and face the hard ~~logic~~ <sup>TRying</sup> logic of the Bible. What makes it important that we are here today and ~~trying~~ <sup>TRying</sup> to learn from God's Word, and trying to grow from our Sunday School classes and our Bible studies and all of that. What makes it significant is that we have a hope beyond the grave, Praise God. It isn't just in this life. We are not just trying to score points with God in this life alone. <sup>Man</sup> This is so ~~import~~ <sup>Man</sup> important.

<sup>Now</sup> ~~Now~~ I would like you <sup>to</sup> notice something. In Vs 12 we have the <sup>word</sup> ~~preac~~ "preached". And we also find the word "preached" in Vs 14. But they are in a different form. Thus, there are different points.

In Vs 12 it says "If Christ is ~~preached~~". And ~~the~~ "if" means "that he certainly is". Because he was being preached that he had risen from the dead. It is a ~~verb~~ verb meaning "to proclaim it."

But when I come to Vs 14 I read "then our preaching is vain." It is the noun, not the verb. And the noun refers to the content of that which is preached.

*Must*  
*SUPPLY*

*The Bible says -* So, what he is saying is that the substance and content of the preaching is ~~vain~~, if Christ be not risen from the dead. *In other words, it is* "empty," which is the meaning of the word "vain." It has no content, or substance, or power to it. *our preaching is in vain*

*out* Do you understand ~~that~~ *that* if Christ did not come back from the dead, and if there is no future resurrection, the book that I am preaching, the content of my proclamation has no power to it. It is deader than a door nail. There is nothing to it. It is just a speech *a bundle of words* ~~of words~~.

(2) Reason number two. Your faith is vain, according to the scripture.

Look at that carefully again. Vs 14: "if Christ has not been risen, your preaching is in vain, and your faith, also, is in vain."

If we were to translate this verse literally *it* would read something like this: empty is your preaching...empty is your faith... *Meaning "Without content"*

Your faith is empty. Nothing to it, if christ had never risen from the dead.

Now, there is a very important point here that I want to share with you that is going to be a surprise to some of you. This verses teaches, once and for all, as far as I am concerned, that faith alone, in and of itself, will not saved anybody....

You listen to that carefully. I don't want to be misquoted. Faith, alone, in and off itself, does not save anybody. *WH?*

*Because* The faith of the Bible is ~~resting on~~ resting *on* facts that are totally outside of yourself and are not dependent upon any experience that you have. And that is ~~in~~ contrary to what we are hearing in our world right now.

The reason why I ~~know~~ know this is because *Paul* is saying that if the fact of the resurrection ~~never~~ *you* occurred then ~~the~~ faith is empty. It is totally empty. A lot of people think that christianity *is* your ability to believe. And people want to know how in the world they can keep on believing. *They* ~~They~~ wander about there ability to believe *the. the*

Friends, listen to me once and for all. Your faith dose not save you. JESUS CHRIST SAVES YOU. PRAISE GOD.

*alludes to  
ep 2!*

Your faith is ~~only~~ the channel by which you are expressing trust and ~~belief~~ belief in facts that are recorded in the Bible that are ~~totally~~ totally out side of your experience. This is so very important.

Faith, itself, that all of us say we have is nothing but whsling in the dark if there is no resurrection. We are kidding ourself into a dream world. If Jesus didn't come back from the dead, ~~people~~ *dead* ~~people~~, we are empty in what we say is our faith. There is no substance to it. There is no content to it at all. We are just wasting our time and trying to make ourselves believe something that really isn't so.

You say, "Boy, Pastor, you are being a little heavey." Well, I hope it shakes some of you up, to tell you the truth. I think ~~we~~ we are kind off weak kneed, wishy washy in our whole discussion about the christian experience today. And our attitudes towards faith, quite frankly, are ~~quite~~ *very* weak. And ~~they~~ they are not resting upon the facts of ~~the~~ the scripture about Jesus Christ.

*Jesus* He savaes me. I don't save myself. It isn't my ability to believe it. Jesus died and rose again. That is historacal ~~fact~~ *truth*. Either you believe it, or you don't. You either accept the evidence of the Bible, or you don't. That is christianity. Remove the resurrection and you remove the substance of faith. There isn't anything left. *That is what Paul means - Without the Resurrection, your faith is empty.*

(3) Number three, the ~~athird~~ third thing that shows us why the resurrection of Christ is so important is that the Apostles would be liers.

Don't accuse them of anything less. They would be absolute liers. And in one sense, ~~I tell~~ you, they would be giving us the wrost hope of all. They would be mis-directing people in things they hoped for, dreamed would happen, build all their life around. When in the end it wasn't really so...

*Now* That is the point of Vs 15. "Moreover we are even fpund to be false witnesses ~~of~~ of God, because we witness against God ~~that~~ *concerning* that He raised Christ."

Do you ~~see~~ *understand* the teaching of this verse? Paul is saying that if the resuurrection of Christ is not true, not only are we liers, but also God is a lier...You see, that is the point.

Now, remember that this book was written 20 - 22 years after Christ literally did rise from the dead. Yet, there were people saying that Jesus didn't really rise from the dead. And Paul says if that is true, then we are all liars because we saw the resurrection.

Turn over to the book of Acts. Let me take you on a quick trip and show you that that is what the apostles are saying. In fact their whole lives were built upon their conviction of the resurrection.

Start in Acts chapter 2, please. The day of Pentecost, Peter is preaching. Acts 2 verse 24 says "And God raised Him up again." Then Peter goes on to talk about Psalms 16 in verse 25 to 28.

Now, look down at Verse 31...."He looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the christ...

Vs 32..."This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses."

Turn over to chapter 3, please..Look at Vs 15..."the one whom God raised from the dead,...a fact to which we are...witnesses..."

Chapter 4 verse 10..."let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God...raised...from the dead...."

Look down to Vs 33..."And with great power the apostles were giving witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus." This was always there message....The resurrection of Jess.

Chapter 5 verse 30..."The God of our fathers raised up Jesus."

Chapter 10 verse 39 Peter says to Cornelius "And we are witnesses of all the things He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem. And they also put Him to death by hanging Him on a cross. God raised Him up on the third day, and granted that He should become visible."..(READ Vs 41-43)

Notice the conclusion of Peter. Peter is saying that the Apostles whole life was controlled by the resurrection; and Jesus ordered them to preach and witness to this fact. They didn't have any other choice. We are witnesses. We sat with him. We ate with him. We know what we are talking about

Now, come back to I Cor 15. The point is simple. Paul is saying if Christ be not raised from the dead then are lives is one big lie...

*also, God*  
We are liers and God is a lier, also. Because *God* he keep telling us over and over again that he raised up Jesus from the dead.

(4) The fourth reason why the resurrection is so important is your faith is worthless if Christ be not resurrected.

Vs 17 says "your faith is worthless." ~~You He uses the word "vain".~~  
*Now that* ~~But~~ the word is a different word then in Vs 14 *where it says your faith is* and it means "useless..of no benefit." You see there ~~is~~ *two* different idea. *vain*

In Vs 14 your faith is empty. It has no power. No benefit. It cannot save you unless Christ rose from the dead.

In Vs 17 it is saying that faith can't bring to you what it claims. It is of no use or benefit to you. So, why even believe anything.

WHAT SHOULD FAITH BRING TO YOU? Well, one thing...forgiveness of sins...eternal life....These are things that God says if you have faith in Christ will come to you. And so Paul is saying that if Christ isn't risen from the dead then, are these things are worthless or useless..

(5) And the fiveth reason, Paul says that believers are still in their sins. What does that mean? Turn over to John chapter 8. Jesus used this phrase in his teaching in the temple. He used this phrase about being "in your sin." Why are believers still in their sins? What does that mean? And they are, if Jesus didn't come back from the dead.

John 8 verse 21 Jesus said "I go away, and you shall seek me, and shall die..in..you..sin."

Vs 24..."I said therefore to you, that you shall die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you shall die in your sins."

Vs 32.....(Read Vs 32-34)

What does it mean to be still in your sin? It means that you are still a slave to sin...

Let me just tell you what that means to me as a preacher, preaching this message to you today...

~~Do you realize that if Jesus never rose from the dead, that there is~~  
no

Do you realize that if Jesu never rose from the dead, ~~that~~ that there is no way that any preaching of mine, or any part of this Bible could some how give you victor over sin? <sup>?</sup> Imagine the frustration in trying to study the word of God and never learning how to live and have victory over your sins? You would never get out of the trap. You would always be in boundage to sin. Always..There would be no deleiverance at all. Tues Night - Man Comes to Christ

Romans 4:25 says that Jesus was delievered up because of our ~~transgressions~~ transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

The resurrection is fundamental. If Christ did not come back from the dead, then he cannot conquer death. Therefore, I am still in slavery to sin. And sin leds to death. The wages of sin is death. There is no breaking of the power of sin, whatsoever, if Christ did not come back from the dead.

Now, there is something <sup>else</sup> very interesting that I would like to share with you at this point. Every time the Bible mentions ~~the~~/Christ as being raised from the dead, it uses a special phrase. *Did You Know That?*

Let me illustration. Come back to I Corinthians 15. I want to show you something that is really exciting. In vs 12 of I Cor 15 we read, "Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead."

The phrase that I want you to see is the phrase "FROM THE DEAD." The Greek word "from" means "out off". And it comes to mean "out off death itself."

35 times in the N.T. that refers to Jesus Christ. The only other usages of that phrase, and there <sup>are</sup> few, refer to believeaers. Not once is an unbeliever resurrected "OUT FROM DEATH."

Now, is the unbeliever resurrected?...YES....The Bible teaches that the unbeliever will be presurrected. But it is not "out from death." The meaning is "OUT FROM DEATH NEVER TO RETURN AGAIN."

Christ was the first one that that ever happened to. <sup>So</sup> Let me ask you a question. Was Christ the first one ever resurrected?...NO...Who was resurrected before Christ?.....LAZARUS.....There were resurrections. Later Peter resurrected Docus from the dead(Acts 9)

But, Listen, all of those people died again. But it was said of Jesus that he came up out-off the dead never to return again...NEVER..

and the *expecting* *they are not you are a* *And you* *And* *believer* *who* *are* *trusting* *in* *the* *Lord*, it says of *your* *their* future resurrection, *out* off the dead ones, never to return again. But it never says that of unbelievers because when they are resurrected to stand before God at the great white throne judgement mentioned in Revelation 20, they ~~will~~ will experience another death again. It is called the second death. And they will be cast into lake of fire, says the scripture, *for all eternity*

Interesting how consistent is the *Word of God* ~~scripture~~. Even to the meaning of the resurrection. You, as a believer, are totally set *free* ~~free~~ from the consequences of death. And this happens the moment you believe in the resurrection of Christ. Death has no victory over you any more.

And even physical death is only a temporary state. God, one day when Christ returns will resurrect your body, physically, to be re-unity with your soul that is presently with the Lord.

(6) Which brings us to the sixth reason why the resurrection is so important. *Jesus*  
And that is if Jesus did not arise from the dead, then dead believeers are lost forever. *Come back to I Cor 15*

Look please at Vs 18 "Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ have ~~perished~~ perished." Now, that phrase "fallen Asleep" is used only of believeers. The Bible never says of unbelievers when they die that they fell asleep. Only believeers. Now, people often ask, "Does that mean that people are sleeping in heaven, right now?" It is called "soul-sleep". Some churches teach that. Is that the meaning of this verse? ABSOLUTELY NOT!....It is referring to people who are christians who have died. *Well - why the Term "Fallen asleep"?* *13* And Revelations chapter 14 tells us that *Christians* ~~people~~ who have died in Christ are resting from their labor and work. The idea is that the trials of this life are over, Praise God. We are resting from our labors and our burdens and we are with the Lord *for all eternity*

But, ~~the~~ point is, that if Christ did not come back from the dead, then believeers have perished. And the word "perish" means "lost forever." And the word perish is used in contrast to being saved.

*(perish - used for unbelievers lost forever)*

The point being that if Christ never arose from the dead, the <sup>Christ</sup> believer is lost forever in contrast to being saved forever which the resurrection <sup>of the</sup> would guarantee. *I know that I shall live forever because I arose from the dead!*

(7) There is a seventh/~~reason~~ reason why Christ resurrection is so important  
And that is that living believers are to be pited the most. Did you know that? If Christ never arose from the dead, then living believers are the most pited.

Look at Vs 19..."If we have only hoped in Christ in this life; we are of all men most to be pitied."

*and* The KJ says miserable. That is really misleading. The word is to have pity or compassion. The point is that Christ did arise from the dead, and if there is no resurrection, then the people in society that you should have the greatest compassion and pity for, are those poor believers who are so misled. In other words, the unbeliever looks at you and thinks you ought to be in a mental home somewhere. You know what I mean?....

Poor people. They think that there is going to be a resurrection. And everybody knows that there is no life after death. And so, these unbelievers have pity and compassion on us. *Jesus arose from the dead that is impossible*

And Paul is saying, "Hay, that is right. <sup>man</sup> If there isn't any resurrection then you are living in a dream world."

But we do believe in the Resurrection. Let me warn you about something. In Church history, christians have always been the subject of attack. And I have noticed that there is a <sup>genital</sup> ~~genital~~ shift in socociety right now. I call it genital because it is not to powerful at the present. But it is going to grow. I can almost guarantee it to you. It has happened in every society and Jesus said that it would.

Do you know what is happening right now? People are now starting to blame christians for what is wrong in society. They are! It is very ~~quiet~~ quiete. But you can read about it in news articules and so forth.

In other words when Christian stand up for what is right or what is wrong, they become the problem. If we could just get these chrisitians out of the way we would all be happy and could do our own thing. And so Christians become the problem.

And I believe perseuction will happens to us christians if the Lord delays his coming. I think it is going to happen here <sup>in US</sup> just like it has happened in every other society. Why should we be escaping it?

And I a lot of us are going to fold under persecution because we cannot take the pressure. <sup>But</sup> It is going to come. Jesus said that ~~if~~ <sup>if</sup> the world hated me, you can count on it, ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> world will hate you. They will want to get you out of the way. They don't want the salt of the earth around anymore. They want to do what they want to do. They don't want the light of the world exposing their deeds of darkness, as Jesus said. They are going to want to get you out of the way so that they can do their own thing. <sup>↓ JUSTICE</sup>

And it becomes even wrose when Christians start ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> doing what the world is doing. It confusses the whole issue.

And this gets back to the fact, do we really believe what we say we believe? <sup>Did</sup> Is there a future? <sup>Is there a resurrection?</sup> And will I stand before Jesus? <sup>And what does that mean to my life, right now? And that is what I want to conclude this message with.</sup> <sup>What should it do in my life -</sup>

I would like you to turn to the book of Ephesians chapter 1. WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT FOR YOU AND ME TO BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION? <sup>g.c.</sup> WHY DOES THAT EFFECT MY LIFE RIGHT NOW?

Ephesians chapter 1 verse 18....(READ 18-20a)

Don't you understand? I don't know any power in my life as a christian, except as the power of the resurrection of Christ.

Now, let me show you a ~~context~~ <sup>new</sup> context in which it shows us very clearly how this controls our life. [ Turn to Philippians chapter 3. I want to show you how the resurrection is going to effect your life, if you really believe it.

Philippians chapter 3 verse 10...(Read Vs 10-19)

What is <sup>he</sup> talking about? THE RESURRAECTION OF THE DEAD....."I <sup>press</sup> ~~pass~~ on toward the goal".n...."for the prize"....

WHAT IS THE REAL PRIZE IN LIFE?..."It is the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Mainly the resurrection

(Read Vs 15-16)

What is he trying to say? The resurrection is going to govern the way you live. Your hope and your mind and your attitude is set on the hope of the resurrection. And it is going to change the way you live.

To reinforce that turn over, please, to Colossians. Colossians chapter 3. Colossians 3 verse 1....(Read Vs 1-5)

O.K. what am I trying to say? If you believe in the resurrection of your body from the dead, if you believe that Christ is coming again, it is going to change the way you live, right now. It is going to change your mind. Your mind will not be fixed on earthly things that are passing away. You will not be laying up treasures on earth, but laying up treasures in heaven. You will think totally different about your whole life and your commitment to ~~God~~. And it will begin to control the sin patterns according to all these passages.

The Bible says that one day we shall be like him for we shall see him as he is. And everyone who has this hope in him, purifies himself even as he is pure. It is the fear of God that brings wisdom and knowledge.

And the ~~fear~~ of man is a trap .. We need to wake up to the fact of what is controlling our lives. What are we living for? Why is this so important? It is important, friends, because there is no hope without it. Non what so ever. And if Christ did not come back from the dead, then you and I will not be rised from the dead. And if you and I are not rised from the dead, we don't have any hope controlling us. There is no standard of morality that can be determined. There is nothing that can control our lives or our patterns or our desires. The one controlling fact is that some day we are going to stand before ~~God~~. And we are going to see him, in whome we have come to believe and trust.

Jesus Christ is alive, friends, and He is coming back....

AMEN!....Do you believe that? It will change your life if you do..

Believe on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved....

Reject the resurrection of Jesus from the dead and you will be lost forever -

Let's close in prayer

To spend eternity in Hell -

Amen