



Sermon Series: It's All About Jesus

To be used with Session 5: The Resurrection of Jesus

Sermon Title Possibilities: What Jesus Delivers Us From

Scripture: Luke 24:1-8,38-43

Connection with Unit Theme: To complement the Bible study “It’s All About Jesus” this sermon shows how the resurrection of Jesus provides hope for the believer. His resurrection gives victory of both spiritual and physical death. We get victory over spiritual death because after His resurrection He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in our hearts while we live on earth (John 14:16-18,26; 16:7-13). We have victory over physical death because when we die in Christ, we go to live with Christ in glory (I. Thess. 4:13-18). Additionally, we are promised the resurrection of our bodies in a new and glorious form (I. Cor. 15:51-57).

Introduction: Crucifixion couldn’t eradicate Him. Death couldn’t stop Him. And the grave couldn’t hold Him. Jesus is alive and powerful (Matt. 28:16-18). He is alive to make intercession for the saints (Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25). And He is powerful enough to save us from fear of death and hell (Heb. 2:14-18; John 3:16-17). This message will teach us that the resurrection of Jesus Christ delivers us **from Death, from Devastation, and from Doubting.**

1. Jesus Delivers from Death (v. 1-8)

It has been said that familiarity breeds contempt. When it comes to the story of the resurrection of Jesus, it is the opposite for the believer. Familiarity births confidence. We come now to Luke’s account of the first Easter Sunday morning. The women came to anoint the body of Jesus, but He wasn’t there. The angels reported that Jesus was not dead, but rather very much alive. Then, they remind the women of what He said about rising from the grave on the third day. Jesus had conquered death and the grave. This gives us hope beyond death and the grave. Because we are in Christ and Christ is in us, we too will rise from death and the grave (I. Cor. 15:51-57; John 11:25-26). Those of us listening to this message may have to go to the grave, but according to His resurrection and promises, we will not stay there (I. Cor. 15:1-28).

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2. Jesus Delivers from Devastation (v. 38-40)

Jesus's questions give us a cue of our deliverance from devastation. He asked His disciples "Why are you troubled?" This points to devastation—being overwhelmed and bewildered because of the loss of the security of having a certain person, people, or possessions. Jesus said before He was arrested "Your heart must not be troubled," the Lord told Joshua "Do not be afraid or discouraged." Jesus's resurrection seals our security in life and death. In life, He will never leave nor forsake us (Heb. 13:5-6). In death, we are present with Him (2 Cor. 5:1-10). Additionally, in eternity, we will reign with Him (2 Tim. 2:12; Rev. 5:10). So, friends, let's be encouraged by that fact that if Jesus can conquer death for us, He can conquer anything else we face.

3. Jesus Delivers from Doubting (v. 41-43)

The righteous life and revealed words of Jesus can deliver us from doubting. The thief on the cross knew that Christ had not done anything that warranted crucifixion. Then, he demonstrated that he believed that Jesus was Lord when asked Him to remember him when Christ came into His kingdom. On top of that, he believed Christ when He told the thief that he would be with Him that very day in paradise. Christ's words and ways build our faith and confidence in God. This is what Paul claimed in Romans 10:17—that when the Word of God is preached, the faith of the saints is built up. Friends, if we remember the work of Christ (life, ministry, death, and resurrection), and read the Word, which is Christ (the Bible—Col. 3:16), we will be constantly delivered from doubting.

Conclusion: In Kenneth Osbeck's devotional book *Amazing Grace: 366 Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions*, he shares how Horatio Spakeford's faith in Christ brought him peace enough to pen the hymn "It is Well with My Soul" after the tragic death of his four daughters. His peace in knowing that he, his wife, and his four daughters each had a relationship with Christ illustrates how Jesus delivers us from death, devastation, and doubting. Thank God for the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Author Bio

Reginald D. Taylor is a graduate of Crichton College, Union University, Capital Seminary, and is currently pursuing the Ph.D. degree at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is the senior Pastor of The Rock Church and Assistant Professor/Director of Urban Theological Studies at MCUTS @ Union University in Memphis TN. He and his wife Dr. Tarra R. Taylor has one son—Reginald D. Taylor II—and three grandchildren Micah, Yara, and Aviyah.

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