

A Christian Resurrection

(II Co 5:17; Ro 6:4)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Morning
 - a. I wanted to let everyone know how much we appreciate this congregation supporting us so we can do the work of the Lord here in Ramona.
 - b. My family and I are going to give you our all and look forward to growing spiritually and numerically with this great congregation over the years to come.
2. This morning we are going to start off the new year from the beginning so to speak for all nowadays, which is the beginning when we become a Christian.
 - a. We are going to examine what is expected out of each Christian in the beginning.
 - i. We are going to continue on through the year looking at the fundamentals of the church that we read about in the N.T.
 - ii. To make sure we are always what God would have us to be.
 - b. Also keep in mind topics or Bible texts that you would like to hear sermons on and place them in the red box in the back and the last Sunday evening of each month I will take one of those pieces topics or Bible texts and preach on it.
3. What that in mind let us examine what it means to have "A Christian Resurrection."

I. Christians Are Resurrected To Become New Creations (II Co 5:17)

- A. If we are in Christ we are a new creation
 1. Notice "if" one is in Christ...only one way into Christ!!
 - i. **Ga 3:27** "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."
 - ii. **Ro 6:3** "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?"
 - a. There is no conversion w/o baptism in the Bible!!!
 - b. Baptism is the 5th step in God's Plan of Salvation, not the only step however..."**expand upon**"
 2. Notice Christian become "new creations"
 - i. "New" Defined: "Denotes "new," of that which is unaccustomed or unused, not "new" in time, recent, but "new" as to form or quality, of different nature from what is contrasted as old." (Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W. (1996). Vol. 2: Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (430–431). Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.)
 - ii. "Creation" Defined: "To make or create something which has not existed before—'to create, creation' (in the NT, used exclusively of God's activity in creation)." (Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Vol. 1: Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament : Based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.) (513). New York: United Bible societies.)
 - a. "In 2 Cor. 5:17 the reference is to what the believer is in Christ; in consequence of the creative act he has become a new creature." (Vine, W. E., Unger, M. F., & White, W. (1996). Vol. 2: Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words (137). Nashville, TN: T. Nelson.)

3. What does all that mean?
 - i. It means all people that become Christians become completely new.
 - ii. Not in a physical sense unless the physical needs to change...but in a spiritual sense.

[This brings me to the next point...]

II. Christians Are Resurrected To Walk In A Newness Of Life (Ro 6:4)

- A. We are resurrected because of God just like Christ
 - 1.
- B. We are resurrected to a new life
 1. "New" Second Definition "the state of being new and different, with the implication of superiority" (Louw, J. P., & Nida, E. A. (1996). Vol. 1: Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament : Based on semantic domains (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition.) (593). New York: United Bible societies.)
 2. Thus we are resurrected to a superior life one better than the previous.
 - i. Sin is ugly
 - a. **He 6:4-6** "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame."
 - ii. Righteousness is beautiful
 - a. **Ro 10:15** "...How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!"
 3. Christians will have a superior life.
 - i. **Ro 7:22-8:1** "For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! **Who will deliver me from this body of death?** 25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. 1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. **2For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.**"
- C. We are to "walk" in that new life
 1. Walk is an active verb.
 - i. We need to be changed to work for God.
 - a. **Ep 2:10** "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."

- ii. We need to work harder for God than we did for Satan. We worked hard for Satan no doubt, how much harder we should work for God.
 - a. **Mt 6:24** "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."
- D. Application, what it means to walk in a changed/superior life?
- 1. It means we put God first!!!
 - i. **Mt 6:33** "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."
 - 2. That means attendance should be w/o question to us.
 - i. **He 10:24–25** "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking/neglecting the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."
 - a. That includes Sun. morning Bible class, Sun. evening service, and Wed. night Bible class.
 - b. All are assemblies, which one does it say you can forsake?
 - ii. Forsaking is not turning away to never come back.
 - a. "Some say well I haven't turned my back completely on God."
 - 1. If that was the case God would not have "comeback" to Christ.
 - i. **Mt 27:46** "...My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"
 - 2. Remember that the Hebrew brethren were forsaking the assembly but they had not turned their backs on God "yet."
 - i. **He 10:25; 2:1**
 - iii. Forsaking is choosing to, in this case, not come to services. It is a choice.
 - a. When we choose...
 - 1. Sports over assembling it is wrong
 - 2. School activities over assembling it is wrong
 - 3. Family over assembling it is wrong
 - 4. Holidays over assembling it is wrong
 - 5. Traveling over the assembly it is wrong.
 - ii. Travel is understandable but do not miss the assembling of the saints to do so.
 - a. Plan out where you are going to worship while away from your home congregation.
 - 6. Leisure over assembling it is wrong.
 - i. Lake, camping, vacation...

3. That means our morals must be superior to our previous life's.
 - i. We should understand the scriptures on...
 - a. Social drinking (We will look closer at that tonight.)
 1. **Pr 23:31** "Do not look on the wine when it is red,
When it sparkles in the cup, When it swirls around
smoothly"
 2. **Ep 5:18** "And do not be drunk with wine, in which is
dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit"
 - b. Gambling
 1. **Co 3:5** "Therefore **put to death your members which
are on the earth:** fornication, uncleanness, passion,
evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.**"
 - c. Sexual promiscuity
 1. **I Co 6:18-20** "Flee [fornication]. Every sin that a man
does is outside the body, but he who commits
[fornication] sins against his own body. 19 Or do you
not know that your body is the temple of the Holy
Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and
you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a
price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your
spirit, which are God's." (I replaced sexual immorality
(NKJV) with fornication (KJV; ASV) as that is the best
translation)
 - d. And on and on...
 - ii. We need to know the scriptures on all these subjects so we can live a
superior life and defend that superior life.
 - a. **I Pt 3:15** "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and
always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a
reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear"

CONCLUSION

1. Henri Frederic Amiel once said, "It is not what he has, nor even what he does, which
directly expresses the worth of a man, but what he is."
 - a. Brother and Sisters "What are you?"
 - i. As a child of God are you a completely different spiritual person now,
walking by a superior way...are you a Christian?
2. Invitation
 - a. Hear **Romans 10:17**
 - b. Believe **John 3:16**
 - c. Repent **Acts 17:30**
 - d. Confess **Matthew 10:32**
 - e. Baptized **Acts 2:38; 22:16; I Peter 3:20-21**
 - f. Stay Faithful **I John 1:7**