

Resurrection Sunday 2021
It's Your Decision
John 20.1-16

On Good Friday as we remembered what our Lord Jesus Christ did on Calvary's Cross we recalled,

- **The Suffering of our Lord** – How He suffered for our sins and not His own. Jesus suffered Emotionally, Physically, and Spiritually for your sins.
- **The Significance of our Lord's Suffering** – It revealed the extent of God's love for us.
- **The Solitary suffering of our Lord** – Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered alone.
- **The Sufficiency of our Lord's Suffering** – Our Lord Jesus Christ paid it all for our sins. We have full pardon for our sins.

But at the end of the day on Friday our Lord Jesus Christ lay dead in a grave.

Now some people might think, "You see, Jesus is no different from anyone else. He died and was buried in His grave, just as everyone else." Yet, today, Resurrection Sunday, our Lord Jesus Christ revealed just how very wrong that thought is and just how very different what Jesus Christ did on Calvary's Cross was and is.

Today we Remember that our Lord Jesus Christ arose from that Grave! He physically got up and walked out of that grave proving that everything the Word of God promised about the Sufficiency of what Jesus did on that cross is absolutely true and real.

Friday evening our Lord lay in that tomb. Come the first day of the week, which was Sunday, the text we just read in John stated that everyone expected for our Lord Jesus Christ to still be in that tomb, to still be dead.

When Mary Magdalene ran to Peter she said,

John 20:2 - *Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, **They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him.***

The other Mary stood outside the tomb and when our Lord approached her she thought he was the gardener and said,

John 20:15 - *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepst thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, **Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.***

Luke 24.36

Then our Lord proved His Physical resurrection in an undeniable way,

Luke 24:36–43 - *And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. ³⁷**But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit.** ³⁸And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? ³⁹**Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.** ⁴⁰And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? ⁴²And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. ⁴³And he took it, and did eat before them.*

1 Cor 15.1

Not only did the women see our Lord, and the disciples but the Word of God records,

1 Corinthians 15:3–8 - *For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: ⁵**And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶After 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. ⁷After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. ⁸And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.*

Our Lord revealed Himself to multitudes of people so that there was no doubt that the physical resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ was undeniable.

This is so incredibly important, that our Lord Physically Resurrected from the grave. The Physical resurrection substantiated everything that the Word of God declares that our Lord accomplished through His death for you and me. We are fully pardoned of all our sins and saved for all eternity to come because of what our Lord Jesus Christ did for us through His suffering and death on Calvary's Cross.

You are, or can be,

- **Saved through the finished work of Jesus Christ on Calvary's Cross, but most importantly through His Physical Resurrection (Rom 10.9-10) – Saved**

from eternal torment and Judgment in a Lake of Fire and Brimstone.

- **Redeemed by the Blood of the Lamb (Col 1.14; Eph 1.7,14).**

Colossians 1:14 - In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

- **Adopted in the Family of God (John 1.12; Gal 4.5; Eph 1.5)**

*Galatians 4:5–6 - To redeem them that were under the law, **that we might receive the adoption of sons**. ⁶And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.*

- **Citizens of Heaven (Eph 2.12-13)**

*Ephesians 2:12–13 - That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world: ¹³**But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.***

All of this and much more accomplished by our Lord Jesus Christ through His Suffering, Death, Burial, and Physical Resurrection.

If you will choose to receive what Christ provided for you on Calvary's Cross all of these will be yours; you too will be saved.

The decision to accept and receive what Jesus Christ did for you is a decision only you can make for yourself.

Notice,

1. The Importance of this Decision

John 5.24

It is the revealed will of God that you must choose to be saved through the Finished Work of the Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary's Cross.

The Word of God reveals that it is not God's will that any person should perish (1 Pet 3.9). God wants everyone to repentant and be saved. But God will not force anyone to be saved and be in heaven. No one will be in heaven that did not choose to be there.

You must choose to be saved!

John 5:24 - Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

Will you hear about what Jesus Christ did for you and will you believe on Him for your salvation so you too can have everlasting life?

No one can make this decision for you. You must make this decision for yourself.

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1. The Importance of this Decision

There are many important decisions in your life but none of them are as important as the decision you make about what you will do about the Lord Jesus Christ.

Important decisions,

- Will you go to college, where will you go to college, what will you study in college?
- Whom will you marry? - This is an incredibly important decision in life.
- Where will you live most of your life?
- Where will you go to church? This might not seem important in all of life's decisions but it will be the difference between hearing the truth of the Word of God and merely being religious? One can save you the other will prevent you from being saved.
- What will you do with the Lord Jesus Christ? Will you be saved?

Of all of life's decisions there is only one decision that has everlasting ramifications and that is the decision you make concerning the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom 10.9

2. The Individuality of this Decision

No one else can make this decision for you. You must decide for yourself.

Will you believe that the Lord Jesus Christ suffered and died on Calvary's Cross for your sins and then Physically arose from the grave to give you everlasting life?

Romans 10:9–10 - *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.* ¹⁰*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Romans 10:13 - *For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.*

There is nothing else in this world or in life that can save you from your sins, but the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ on Calvary's Cross, that we celebrate and remember on Resurrection Sunday commonly called Easter.

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1. The Importance of this Decision
2. The Individuality of the Decision

But you must individually decide whether or not you will accept what Jesus did for you for yourself.

- No Priest can absolve you of your sins.
- No Pope can declare you saved
- No Sunday School teacher or deacon can save you
- Your good godly parents cannot drag you through heavens gates.

You must call on the Lord Jesus Christ for yourself. This is an absolutely individual decision.

This is why a parent must bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. A child must hear the Word of God in a way that they can respond to the Word of God for themselves. Because they too must one day choose the Lord Jesus Christ, or reject Him.

By-the-way a choice to postpone the decision to choose the Lord Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior is a decision to reject Christ and His salvation. Don't reject the Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 6:2 - *(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)*

What will you do with the Lord Jesus Christ? It is your Individual decision.

3. The Immortality Of The Decision

Rev 20.15

The decision you make concerning the Lord Jesus Christ is the only decision you will ever make that has immortal ramifications.

The fact of the Bible or the Word of God is that everyone who ever lives will live for ever.

Everyone has everlasting life. Therefore the answer to the question of What will you do about the Lord Jesus Christ is an immortal decision.

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1. The Importance of this Decision
2. The Individuality of the Decision

You do not choose whether you will exist forever. **You choose where you will exist forever.**

If you choose to reject the Lord Jesus Christ then you choose to live immortally in a Lake of Fire and Brimstone referred to in the Bible as the Judgment and wrath of God.

Revelation 20:11–15 - *And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. ¹³And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: **and they were judged every man according to their works. ¹⁴And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. ¹⁵And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.***

On the other hand, if you will choose to accept what the Lord Jesus Christ did for you on Calvary's Cross and to receive the Lord Jesus as your personal LORD and Savior, then you will be saved

Romans 10:9–10 - *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and **shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.***

You are saved from the consequences and judgment of your sins and you will live forever as a child of God and citizen of heaven.

The choice is yours. What will you choose?

It's your decision, what will you do with the Lord Jesus Christ?

What will you do with the one who paid the full penalty for your sins in writhing anguish, suffering and pain on Calvary's Cross and then Physically Arose from the grave to give you Abounding, Everlasting Life?

What will you choose?

CrossRoads Baptist Church, April 4, 2021

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- 1. The Importance of this Decision**
- 2. The Individuality of the Decision**
- 3. The Immortality of the Decision**