

## A Resurrection Shout!

### 1 Corinthians 15: 12-20 [Message]

“12-15 Now, let me ask you something profound yet troubling. If you became believers because you trusted the proclamation that Christ is *alive, risen from the dead*, how can you let people say that there is no such thing as a resurrection?

If there's no resurrection, there's no living Christ. And face it—if there's no resurrection for Christ, everything we've told you is smoke and mirrors, and everything you've staked your life on is smoke and mirrors. Not only that, but we would be guilty of telling a string of barefaced lies about God, all these affidavits we passed on to you verifying that God raised up Christ—sheer fabrications, if there's no resurrection.

16-20 If corpses can't be raised, then Christ wasn't, because he was indeed dead. And if Christ weren't raised, then all you're doing is wandering about in the dark, as lost as ever. It's even worse for those who died hoping in Christ and resurrection, because they're already in their graves. If all we get out of Christ is a little inspiration for a few short years, we're a pretty sorry lot.

But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries”

### Matthew 27: 50 – 54 [Message]

“[50] But Jesus, again crying out loudly, breathed his last.

[51-53] At that moment, the Temple curtain was ripped in two, top to bottom. There was an earthquake, and rocks were split in pieces. What's more, tombs were opened up, and many bodies of believers asleep in their graves were raised. (After Jesus' resurrection, they left the tombs, entered the holy city, and appeared to many.)

[54] The captain of the guard and those with him, when they saw the earthquake and everything else that was happening, were scared to death. They said, "This has to be the Son of God!"

[55-56] There were also quite a few women watching from a distance, women who had followed Jesus from Galilee in order to serve him. Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of the Zebedee brothers”

2.

## **Introduction**

**I have the same news that I have been preaching every Easter in this Church for years – “JESUS IS ALIVE” “JESUS IS RISEN”**

**Our Christian faith rises or falls on the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**\* No legend or fairy-tale, the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the foundation of our faith!**

**Graves opened, the dead walked the streets and ladies in the Lords ministry eye witnessed the dead rising from the cemetery!**

**The Son of God, the seed of God died and rose again!**

**\* There is deep evidence of Christ's resurrection, both from history and from nature.**

**Every cycle of this planet is a "death-resurrection" cycle.**

**\* In fact, it is a known fact of science that life springs from death.**

**It is therefore appropriate that Spring is the time we celebrate Christ's resurrection.**

**[Note: use seed / fruit illustration – harvest is a joyful time, seed planting is hard work but sets everything up for a harvest!]**

## **Illustration**

**On the Easter just before he died, D. William Sangster painfully printed a short note to his daughter. A deeply spiritual Methodist, he had been spearheading a renewal movement in the British Isles after World War II. Then his ministry, except for prayer, was ended by a disease which progressively paralyzed his body, even his vocal chords. But the last Resurrection Sunday he spent on earth, still able to move his fingers, he wrote: "How terrible to wake up on Easter and have no voice to shout, 'He is risen!' Far worse, to have a voice and not want to shout."**

**[James S. Hewett, Illustrations Unlimited (Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc, 1988) p. 167]**

3.

Lets take a few moments on this Easter Sunday – Resurrection Celebration and shout – “Glory and Praise the Blessed name of Jesus!”

Luke 24 [Message] - Looking for the Living One in a Cemetery

“[1-3] At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the Master Jesus.

[4-8] They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?" Then they remembered Jesus' words.

[9-11] They left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them kept telling these things to the apostles, but the apostles didn't believe a word of it, thought they were making it all up.

[12] But Peter jumped to his feet and ran to the tomb. He stooped to look in and saw a few grave clothes, that's all. He walked away puzzled, shaking his head”

\* The women came back from the cemetery on Easter morning, they brought with them word of an empty tomb and astonishing news: "He is not here but has risen?"

All Christian preaching begins here, and all Christian sermons are reverberations of this Easter news, first announced by the women to the apostles.

\* “He is Risen!”

\* “A RISEN SHOUT!”

4.

**John 10: 11**

**[Tells us about the Good Shepherd Jesus / The Savior of the World]**

**“I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep”**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm**

**[1] “The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**[2] He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**[3] He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**[4] Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.**

**[5] Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.**

**[6] Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever”**

**\* “The Lord is my Shepherd” - Jehovah-rohi [My Shepherd]**

**Isaiah 58: 11**

**“The Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought”**

**\* “I shall not want” - Jehovah – jireh – [My Provider]**

**Psalm 35: 27**

**“ Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favor my righteous cause; yea let them say continually, let the Lord be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant”**

**\* “He maketh me to lie down in green pasture, He leadeth me beside the still waters” - Jehovah-shalom – [My Peace]**

**Isaiah 26: 3**

**“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee”**

**\* “He restoreth My Soul” – Jehovah – rapha – [My Healer]**

**Acts 10: 38**

**“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power; who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him”**

1 Peter 2: 24

“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness by whose stripes ye were healed”

\* “He leadeth me in the paths of Righteousness for His name sake”

Jehovah – tsidquenu [My Righteousness]

II Corinthians 5: 21

“For He made Him who knew no sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him”

\* Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me” Jehovah – shamah [God Ever Present]

Hebrews 13: 5

“I will never leave thee nor forsake thee”

Matthew 28: 20

“I am with you always, even unto the end of the world”

\* “Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me, thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies”

Jehovah-nissi [The Lord My Conqueror / My Banner]

Song of Solomon 2: 4

“His banner over me was love...”

Philippians 4: 13

“I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me”

\* “Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever”

Jehovah – shamah [Is There]

The Alpha and Omega – The beginning and the end!”

1 Thessalonians 5: 18

“In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus

6

**“But the truth is that Christ has been raised up, the first in a long legacy of those who are going to leave the cemeteries”**

**1 Thessalonians 4: 16**

**“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air; and so shall we ever be with the Lord”**

**“A RISEN SHOUT!” – “Resurrection Sunday” – How about your life?**

**Illustration**

**Number of deceased people frozen in hopes of someday being brought back to life: 50 Price for these services, including storage: \$120,000 Price for freezing and storing only the head of the client: \$41,000.**

**[Health, 1-2/93. "To Verify," Leadership]**

- \* Folks we all will continue to live after this life.**
- \* The place we will spend eternity is our choice.**
- \* Jesus Christ died so that we may truly live eternity with Him forever!**
- \* My friends this is truly the “Risen Shout” – Forever with God!**
- \* This Easter is a time to Shout “JEUS IS ALIVE!” - Are You?**