



Repentance Tabernacle Church

RepentanceTabernacle@gmail.com
www.RepentanceTabernacle.org (984) 369-5171

Jesus' Resurrection!

Lesson Text: Matthew 28:1-20

Focus Verses: Matthew 28:6-8 - ⁶He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. ⁷And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. ⁸And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

Truth About Covenant: Jesus' resurrection conquered our final enemy, death.

Covenant Context: Although all founders of history's religious leaders have died, only Jesus has resurrected. His resurrection is at the heart of who we are as Christians. Without it, the gospel would not be good news, for sin and death would still reign. However, Jesus conquered sin, death, and hell and invites all humanity into this new and better covenant with Him.

Death reigned like a tyrant until Jesus' resurrection. Unlike the false gods, Jesus conquered death once and for all when He rose from the grave, never to die again. Those who are saved have no reason to fear death, knowing it is only the beginning of eternal life. In Revelation 1:18, Jesus proclaimed: "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Why should we who know Jesus Christ fear anything He holds the keys (hell, death, and heaven) to and has control over?

Through Jesus' death, we die to our old way of life. When we are buried with Him in baptism, our old life of slavery to sin is dead and buried. When we receive the Holy Ghost, the breath of God is breathed into us to make us alive again. We rise from the dead just like Jesus rose, and we are changed. We are empowered to walk in a new life. Our past does not have to define our future. **Our failures of yesterday are not our destiny for tomorrow.** Jesus offers us a brand-new life and a fresh start, a new identity as a child of God.

Moreover, when we receive the Holy Ghost, with the supernatural sign of speaking in tongues, God dwells with us and writes His law on our hearts. Being led by the Spirit does not mean we have license to ignore the commandments of God. Instead, it means they are even nearer and dearer to our hearts than ever. Rather than an external code of laws, they become an internalized way of life. We are no longer spiritually dead people trying to follow a list of dos and don'ts. Now we are spiritually alive and empowered to follow God's principles from the heart.

Because Jesus died for us and rose again triumphantly, we have hope both for this life and the next. It would be terrifying to think that this life with all its heartaches and struggles is all there is, but we have hope in Christ not in this life only but also in the world to come. We have hope knowing no matter what the enemy brings against us, God can turn it to good, just like He turned the cross that was made to destroy into a source of eternal salvation. God turns even apparent defeats into ultimate victory. No matter what, no matter how dark, no matter how difficult, our faith is not in vain. **Our Jesus arose, and one day, we will too.**

Two groups of witnesses went out into the world from that empty tomb. The soldiers, bribed by the chief priests, spread the word that Jesus' dead body had been stolen away by His disciples while the soldiers slept. Some claimed the apostles were liars, that they stole Jesus' body and were lying when they claimed to be eyewitnesses of His resurrection. But what lie could possibly motivate men to travel the world preaching a message they knew was a lie? What lie could possibly be worth dying for in some of the most excruciating ways possible? The disciples, with no hope of personal gain spread the word that Jesus was alive again. The soldiers' lie died away almost immediately. The disciples did not lie. The apostolic truth lives on almost two thousand years later. Jesus rose again, He is still alive and living in us today.