

NOTHING IS GREATER THAN
THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST
7/13/25 MESSAGE

1 Cor. 15:12-20

12 But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?
13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.
14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.
15 More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.
16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.
17 And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.
18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.
19 If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
20 But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

1 Thessalonians 5:21 (NLT)

"But test everything that is said. Hold on to what is good."

C.S. Lewis wrote "Mere Christianity",
Josh McDowell wrote "Evidence That Demands A Verdict", "More Than A Carpenter"
J. Warner Wallace wrote "Cold Case Christianity"
Lee Strobel wrote "A Case For Christ"

Mark 12:30 (NLT)

"And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength."

Mark 15:25 (NLT)

"It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him."

Matthew 27:45 (NLT)

"At noon, darkness fell across the whole land until three o'clock."

John 19:25 (NLT)

"Standing near the cross were Jesus' mother, and his mother's sister, Mary (the wife of Clopas), and Mary Magdalene."

John 19:26 (NLT)

"When Jesus saw his mother standing there beside the disciple he loved, he said to her, 'Dear woman, here is your son.'"

Mark 15:24 (NLT)

"Then the soldiers nailed him to the cross. They divided his clothes and threw dice to decide who would get each piece."

Matthew 27:41-42 (NLT)

41 The leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders also mocked Jesus.

42 "He saved others," they scoffed, "but he can't save himself! So he is the King of Israel, is he? Let him come down from the cross right now, and we will believe in him!"

John 19:18 (NLT)

"There they nailed him to the cross. Two others were crucified with him, one on either side, with Jesus between them."

John 19:34 (NLT)

"One of the soldiers, however, pierced his side with a spear, and immediately blood and water flowed out."

John 19:30 (NLT)

"When Jesus had tasted it, he said, 'It is finished!' Then he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

John 19:38-42 (NLT)

38 Afterward Joseph of Arimathea, who had been a secret disciple of Jesus (because he feared the Jewish leaders), asked Pilate for permission to take down Jesus' body. When Pilate gave permission, Joseph came and took the body away.

39 With him came Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus at night. He brought about seventy-five pounds of perfumed ointment made from myrrh and aloes.

40 Following Jewish burial custom, they wrapped Jesus' body with the spices in long sheets of linen cloth.

41 The place of crucifixion was near a garden, where there was a new tomb, never used before.

42 And so, because it was the day of preparation for the Jewish Passover and since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Matthew 27:62-66 (NLT)

62 The next day, on the Sabbath, the leading priests and Pharisees went to see Pilate.

63 They told him, "Sir, we remember what that deceiver once said while he was still alive: 'After three days I will rise from the dead.'"

64 So we request that you seal the tomb until the third day. This will prevent his disciples from coming and stealing his body and then telling everyone he was raised from the dead! If that happens, we'll be worse off than we were at first."

65 Pilate replied, "Take guards and secure it the best you can."

66 So they sealed the tomb and posted guards to protect it.

John 20:1 (NLT)

"Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance."

Matt 28:1-7 (NLT)

1 Early on Sunday morning, as the new day was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went out to visit the tomb.

2 Suddenly there was a great earthquake! For an angel of the Lord came down from heaven, rolled aside the stone, and sat on it.

3 His face shone like lightning, and his clothing was as white as snow.

4 The guards shook with fear when they saw him, and they fell into a dead faint.

5 Then the angel spoke to the women. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified."

6 He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. Come, see where his body was lying.

7 And now, go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you."

John 20:3-8 (NLT)

3 Peter and the other disciple started out for the tomb.

4 They were both running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

5 He stooped and looked in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he didn't go in.

6 Then Simon Peter arrived and went inside. He also noticed the linen wrappings lying there,

7 while the cloth that had covered Jesus' head was folded up and lying apart from the other wrappings.

8 Then the disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in, and he saw and believed—

John 20:19-20 (NLT)

19 That Sunday evening the disciples were meeting behind locked doors because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly, Jesus was standing there among them!

"Peace be with you," he said.

20 As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord!

John 20:26-28 (NLT)

26 Eight days later the disciples were together again, and this time Thomas was with them. The doors were locked; but suddenly, as before, Jesus was standing among them. "Peace be with you," he said.

27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and look at my hands. Put your hand into the wound in my side. Don't be faithless any longer. Believe!"

28 "My Lord and my God!" Thomas exclaimed.

Luke 24:13-15 (NLT)

13 That same day two of Jesus' followers were walking to the village of Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem.

14 As they walked along they were talking about everything that had happened.

15 As they talked and discussed these things, Jesus himself suddenly came and began walking with them.

1 Corinthians 15:4-8 (NLT)

4 He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.

5 He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve.

6 After that, he was seen by more than 500 of his followers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

7 Then he was seen by James and later by all the apostles.

8 Last of all, as though I had been born at the wrong time, I also saw him. Acts 2:14 (NLT)

Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, "Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this."

Acts 2:14 (NLT)

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Acts 9:1–5 (NLT)

1 Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord’s followers. So he went to the high priest.

2 He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains.

3 As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him.

4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?”

5 “Who are you, lord?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting!”

Colossians 2:13–14 (NLT)

13 You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.

14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

Colossians 1:15–16 (NLT)

15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,

16 for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can’t see—such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

Psalms 139:15–16 (NLT)

15 Your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before any of them ever began.

16 How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!

Psalms 139:14 (NLT)

I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

Psalms 55:22 (NLT)

Give your burdens to the Lord, and he will take care of you. He will not permit the godly to slip and fall.

Romans 8:28 (NLT)

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Hebrews 13:5 (NLT)

Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said,
"I will never fail you.
I will never abandon you."

Matthew 28:20 (NLT)

Teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.

Hebrews 4:14–15 (NLT)

14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has gone through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to what we believe.

15 This high priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for he faced all of the same testings we do, yet he did not sin.

Hebrews 4:16 (NLT)

So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it.

Matthew 11:28–29 (NLT)

28 "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

29 Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Matthew 6:20–21 (NLT)

20 Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal.

21 Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

John 14:1–3 (NLT)

1 "Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, and trust also in me.

2 There is more than enough room in my Father's home. If this were not so, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

3 When everything is ready, I will come and get you, so that you will always be with me where I am.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

John 3:16 (NLT)

For God loved the world so much that he gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:20 (NLT)

We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!"

Galatians 4:4 (NLT)

But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law.

Micah 5:2 (NLT)

“But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, are only a small village among all the people of Judah. Yet a ruler of Israel, whose origins are from the distant past, will come from you on my behalf.

Daniel 9:25–26 (NLT)

25 “Know and understand this: From the time the word goes out to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven ‘sevens’ and sixty-two ‘sevens.’ It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.

26 After the sixty-two ‘sevens,’ the Anointed One will be killed and have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the temple. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed.

Psalms 22 (NLT) - the entire psalm

Mark 10:34 (NLT)

“They will mock him, spit on him, and flog him. Then they will kill him, but three days later he will rise again.”