

TRFMC #2
Why The Resurrection Matters
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Christianity is a resurrection movement of God, by Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, recorded and supported in the holy scriptures!

“He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.” Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.””

Luke 24:44-49 NIV

Introduction: What is the importance of the resurrection? The resurrection is the foundation and grounding of Judeo-Christian belief. Both the anticipation and development of theology in the mind of the Jew and the Christian are couched on the notion of resurrection.

The Gospels, those historically reliable documents that found Christian thinking, are pregnant with the construction of thought around the resurrection, its meaning, its coming and its actuality in Jesus. The historical progression of Christianity seen in Acts is filled with the movements basis fueled by the place of the resurrection.

The purpose of this study is to consider the powerful place of the resurrection in Christian conviction so that we live a life that honors the historical account and is grounded in the implications of the resurrection in our current context.

To accomplish that purpose this study will be developed around several major points of consideration.

- I. **The intent of the resurrection.** What did God use the resurrection for as its purpose or teleos?
 1. The resurrection is a proof of the sonship of Jesus. Lk.24:44-46
 2. The resurrection is a proof for the truthfulness of Christianity. Lk. 24:44 “fulfilled”, Acts 2:22-24
 3. The resurrection is a proof for the outcome of life. Lk.22:46
 4. The resurrection is a proof for the scheme of redemption. Lk. 22:46-47
 5. The resurrection is a proof for the why of our plight. Lk. 22: 48
 6. The resurrection is a proof for the promised presence of God with man. Lk. 22:48-49

II. The implications of the resurrection are the grounds for true conviction concerning God, Jesus, the Bible and Christianity.

“I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.”

Philippians 3:10-11 NIV

The apostle Paul penned these words as a former skeptic and enemy of Christianity. Here he shares his unmovable conviction in Christ. This sentiment is our goal. Our convictions about God, Jesus, the Bible and Christianity ought to be driven by the reality of the resurrection and knowing why we believe as we do. Why does the resurrection of Jesus matter to you, you resolve, your thinking and hope?

1. I am convinced because of the confirming power of the resurrection. 1Cor. 15:1-10
2. I am convinced because of the confessional power. Acts 4:12; Mt. 16:17; 10:23
3. I am convinced because of the comforting power Jesus offers to life to come. Jn. 14:6; Rom. 6:5
4. I am convinced because of the consistency of the Scriptures and their evidence. Lk. 22:44
5. I am convinced because of the character shaping power of Jesus through his crucifixion and resurrection. Gal. 2:20; 5:24; 6:14

III. The inductive meaning of the resurrection is solidarity for the Christian worldwide as well as the practical rationale for living in chaotic and difficult moments.

- If Jesus rose, then He is God.
- If he is God, then what he says is truthful.
- If what he says is truthful, then the Bible is relevant and true, filled with promises.
- If the Bible is true, then it is the means for grounding the Christian worldview's hope.
- Jesus rose, and is God.
- Therefore, What Jesus says is true.
- Jesus teaches that we have reason and hope, promises that give power to live life, in chaos and even in catastrophe.
- Jesus says, this temporary setting is not the complete story.
- Jesus says, we can be made whole as persons, realign our passions and understand our purpose! Gal.2:20; 5:24; 6:14