



TRUE LIGHT

Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. ~ Psalm 119:105

October 4, 2020

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship:

9 a.m. (masked)

10:30 a.m. (masks optional)

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00PM

MINISTER

Stan Dauck
573-293-5620

ELDERS

David Burleson
573-820-0329
David Carson
573-276-5567
Stan Dauck
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DEACONS

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"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24

**We Welcome You
To All Of Our
Services**

WHICH WAY WILL I RUN?

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord... (Romans 1:1-5).

Paul began his letter to the Christians in Rome, the heart of the Empire, by declaring that Jesus is Christ, Lord, and Son of God because of the Holy Spirit's work in raising Jesus' lifeless body from the dead. What an incredibly audacious, almost ludicrous claim. Except, Paul wasn't the only one who made this claim.

Women who knew him well had gone to put spices on his lifeless body at the tomb where they saw his dead body placed. While powerless to move the stone and break the seal that adhered it to the tomb, they saw the tomb open and empty. They met heavenly messengers, who told them to tell the apostles. Even though the apostles initially disregarded the women's testimony, their words proved to be true. The apostles began their urgent investigation into the truth and found that the women's stories were factual. Jesus then appeared to some of the women. He spoke with them and confirmed what the angels had declared: their Lord was no longer in the tomb, but had risen from the dead.

Jesus' other apostles, men who knew him in life and death, were testifying that they had seen him alive after his death. Though they had been fearful and defeated when Jesus was arrested, falsely tried, beaten, scourged, mocked, and crucified, they became fearless in their testimony to his resurrection. They claimed they had seen him, eaten with him, put their fingers into his scars, heard his voice, and been blessed by his presence. They believed in Jesus' resurrection because they saw him alive again. Those once fearful men were now fully convinced. Jesus was alive and had triumphed over death. They believed this so strongly that each of them gave their lives as the ultimate testimony of their faith.

What am I going to do with Jesus' resurrection?

Am I going to believe, or am I going to disbelieve?

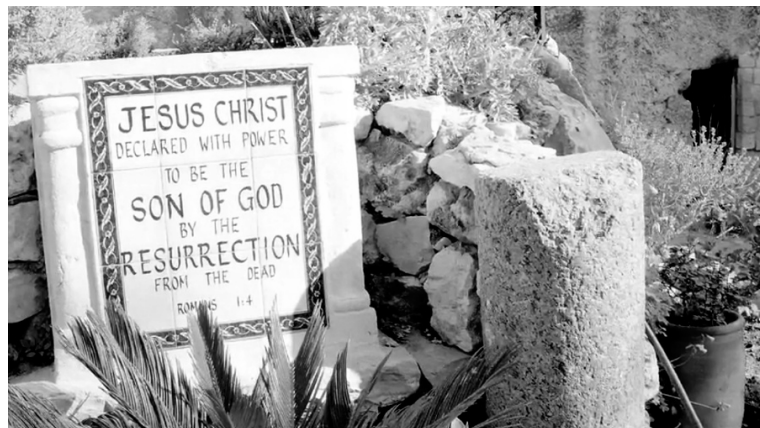
Am I going to examine, or am I going to ignore the reports of Jesus resurrection?

What evidence speaks most convincingly to me that Jesus was raised from the dead?

During Jesus' passion, we have two small little details that often get overlooked or forgotten. Those little details are the kinds of things we would expect from eye witness testimony. In one of those events, a young man ran from the scene as soldiers had arrested Jesus and took him to be tried (Mark 14:51-52). However, he was not the only one who abandoned Jesus at this moment: all the apostles had forsaken him and run away (Mark 14:50). In the other event, two of Jesus' closest friends among his apostles, Peter and John, ran to the empty tomb. They felt compelled to examine the claim that their Lord was alive, risen from the grave (John 20:1-9). That run toward the tomb began a chain of events that would change their lives and change the face of human history.

Today, some run from faith in Jesus because they see him only as a man whose life ended in failure, torture, and ridicule on a cross. People are not raised from the dead; so then Jesus couldn't have been raised.

Continued on back



CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

BIRTHDAYS

October 4 - Faye Dockins
Kalee Howard
October 6 - McKenzie Beaird
Jordan McGowan
Judy Snyder
October 8 - Betty McGowan
October 9 - Luke Ethan Mason
Bentley Collier
October 10 - Judy Duley
Cason Karnes



CHILDREN'S HOMES NEEDS

Olives * BBQ Sauce * Bleach *
Country Gravy Mix * Tortilla Chips *
Brown Gravy Mix
PICK UP DATE OCTOBER 12

ANNIVERSARIES:

October 8 - Ken & Sharon Durham

Attendance for September 27: 107
Contribution for September 27: \$4155

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

"...I was sick and you visited me..." Matthew 25:36

Remember: Alan Robinson has had some serious setbacks and is in septic shock. He is being sedated and is on a ventilator * Don Jackson had knee surgery Tuesday and is in Cypress Point for rehab * Billie Cooper is in Cypress Point for rehab following surgery * Jerry Don McGowan is home from the hospital and improving * Pam Claeys will be having a biopsy Monday * Angie Smith has been diagnosed with colon cancer * Heather Whitehead, Loretta Carson's 21-year-old great-niece, has been having lots of health issues and is really sick * Phil McKuIn, Bud's brother, has been placed on hospice care

Continue praying for these members of our church family: Louella Akers * Kristi Altman * John David Barnett * David Burleson * Pam Claeys * Billie Cooper * Scott and Judy Flannery * Sue Flowers * Grant Howard * Morris Karnes * Ronnie Mays * Sonja Mays * Darlene McGowan * Helen McGowan * Jeff McGowan * Kevin Mickey * Reba Owens * Ida Roberts * Gayle Rodgers * Waynetta Rodgers * Elwood Rush * Jane Smith * Leon Smith * Kevin Steed * David Terrill * Bettie Thurston * Joy Watson * Marty Watson * Sharlette Watson

Those dealing with cancer (non congregational) :

Roxanne Carson * Sherry Chambers * Randy Cravens * Bill Fitzpatrick * Kim Goins * LeAnn Jacques * Tommy Jacques * Pam Jeralds * Andy Kelley * Connie Lemmons * Annette Lumsden * Phil McKuIn * Ponna Mahan * Paula Mason * Betty Nicholson * Tammy Telker * Bobby Thornton * Paula Walls

Other health issues (non-congregational):

DeeDee Burch * Mary Burke * Bob Garner * Dana Jo Jackson * Clyde Jacques * Lola Johnson * Beckie King * Nikki Lawrence * Alvin Miller * Tom Provance * Gene Rowland * Traci Suiter * Paige Tanner *

Our Shut Ins

Lois McKuIn * Marty Watson * Joy Watson * Elwood Rush * Sue Flowers * Travis Cooper * Shirley Johnson * Fern Botsch * Pam Claeys

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Dexter church of Christ will be holding a widowhood workshop today through October 7, at the building. Times will be at 6 p.m. this evening, and 7 p.m. the rest of the week. This workshop is presented by Dean Miller, Freed Hardeman graduate and widower. A flyer with more information is posted on the bulletin board by the nursery.

Be praying for our Gospel Meeting October 25-28 with Bryan McAlister. More information to follow soon.



Continued from front:

Ah, but lingering problems lurk underneath their assumptions.

*Why would the apostles, including Paul, who wrote the opening words we are examining today, all be willing to die for what they knew to be a lie?

*Where did they and their message get such transformational power that they could impact their whole world?

*After all, these were mostly insignificant laborers from a despised and volatile place of Rome's perimeter badlands. Why would anyone believe them?

*How would their message come to take hold in so many places throughout the world in such a short time despite persecution and martyrdom for many of those who proclaimed it?

Some today, are like Peter and John when they heard that the tomb was empty. They run to the tomb to check it out to examine what occurred. They met the resurrected Jesus and became so moved, so convinced, so empowered, that they were willing to go all over the world, risking all sorts of punishment to proclaim what they believed.

In the subsequent centuries since Jesus' death and resurrection, millions upon millions have joined Peter and John in a spiritual run to the empty tomb. They have concluded in faith that they also believe that Jesus has risen from the dead. The impossible happened by the power of God through the Holy Spirit. Jesus has been declared with power to be the Son of God through his resurrection from the dead. He is now Lord and Christ, Savior and friend, to all who will come to him.

The question for each of us, then, is this: Which way will I run? Will I run away from following the Jesus who went to the cross, or will I run in faith to follow the Jesus of the empty tomb, even if it means I have to follow him to a cross of my own?

James Nored and Phil Ware, www.heartlight.com