

# Memory Verse

**Acts 2:24**

**God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death,  
because it was not possible for him to be held  
by it.**

GRACELIFE



CHURCH

**WHY THE  
RESURRECTION?**

## A. Vindication

The resurrection of Jesus proves that **death could not hold Jesus because He had no sin.**

The resurrection is *proof that miracles did and can happen, that God alone is the living God, that Jesus was and is God, and everything He said and did, including His sacrificial atoning death on the cross was true and sufficient.*

## **A. Vindication**

*Jesus claimed to be God, have the power over life and death, and said He had the authority to lay His own life down and take it up again (John 10:17-18).* The resurrection of Jesus vindicated His *Person*, His *promises* and His *prophecies*, and what He spoke about Himself. Because He was the sinless Lamb of God who came to take away the sin of the world, **death could not hold the King!**

**Acts 2:22-33** - “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know - 23this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24God raised him up, loosing the pangs

of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25For David says concerning him, “I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; 26therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. 27For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. 28You have made known to me

the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’ 29“Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31he foresaw and spoke about the

resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

## **A. Vindication**

Peter quotes *Psalm 16:8-11*, and says David prophesied about the resurrection of Jesus in *Psalm 16*, written *1000 years before Christs' birth*. Not only was the *resurrection a fulfillment of prophecy*, but as Peter said, **vindication of the character and Person of Jesus**. The result of the resurrection is *God made Him, Jesus, Lord and Messiah*, as Peter states in *Acts 2:36*.

## A. Vindication

**Death** was and is a **punishment for sin**. God said the soul that **sins** shall **die** in *Ezekiel 18:4*. *Everyone except Jesus* has sinned and is under God's wrath. However, **Christ had no sin, could not sin**, and therefore, **death could not keep Him in its grip!** Jesus had the power to lay His life down, which He did, and the power to raise it again, which He, the Father and Spirit did, according to Scripture.

***Philippians 2:8-10*** - And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. 9Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, 10so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## **A. Vindication**

Because *Jesus is Lord and the Messiah*, He will also return. Because **Jesus is the rightful heir to the throne of David**, He will sit on the throne of David and rule from Jerusalem in the Kingdom at His return. Because Jesus is both 100% God and 100% man, only **He has the authority** to *rule the world, fulfill God's promises to Israel and to bring in His Kingdom* at His return.

## **B. Justification**

***Romans 4:20-25*** - No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, 21fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. 22That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness."  
23But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, 24but for ours also. It will be counted to us who

## **B. Justification**

believe in him who raised from the dead  
Jesus our Lord, 25who was delivered up for  
our trespasses and raised for our  
justification.

## B. Justification

What is **justification**?

The *Biblical definition* is *God declaring a sinner righteous or not guilty*. It is God giving honor to someone who is dishonorable. It is God declaring me not guilty, though I still sin. I am *righteous in Christ*, with the *righteousness of Christ*.

## **B. Justification**

***2 Corinthians 5:21*** - For our sake he [*God the Father*] made him [*Jesus*] to be sin [*sin sacrifice*] who knew no sin [*was sinless*], so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

***Romans 6:4*** - We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. - While some say this refers to water baptism, I disagree, because that is not the context and water baptism doesn't cleanse me from sin and cause me to walk in newness of life. In this context, the word for

**baptism refers to what Christ did in His death and resurrection, that we would walk in a new life, though it is pictured in water baptism.**

***Philippians 3:13-15*** - Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.

## **B. Justification**

This is one reason why the resurrection of Christ is ***the core of the gospel***. It is part of the salvation we have in Him. Without the resurrection there is no salvation! Without the resurrection there is no Christianity! *1 Corinthians 15:17. In Christ*, for those who have turned away from their sins and put their personal faith or trust in Jesus, **God declared us justified - righteous!**

## B. Justification

God's **strength** is there because of the resurrection of Jesus! We have **hope** because of the resurrection of Jesus! We **serve a living Savior** who is in the world today and I know that He is with me, whatever men may say... *Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.* *Because He lives, all fear is gone!* Life is worth living, just because He lives! In Him, I am **justified!**

## C. Glorification

Some Christians think *salvation is the end of God's work in our lives*. **No!** It is only the beginning of *His work in our lives*.

*Sanctification* is part of it, both *positional* and *practical*, which is God **conforming us to the likeness of Jesus**, which is a lifelong process, there is also ***glorification***.

***Glorification*** is what occurs for believers at the **end of the age** at Christ's return.

**1 Corinthians 15:42-55** - So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is **sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.** 43It is sown in **dishonor**; it is raised in **glory**. It is sown in **weakness**; it is raised in **power**. 44It is sown a **natural body**; it is raised a **spiritual body**. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body... 51Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not

all sleep, but **we shall all be changed**, 52in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the **dead will be raised imperishable**, and **we shall be changed**. 53For this **perishable body** must **put on the imperishable**, and this **mortal body** must **put on immortality**. 54When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come

to pass the saying that is written: “Death is  
swallowed up in victory.” 55“O death, where  
is your victory? O death, where is your  
sting?”

**1 John 3:1-3** - Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears **we shall be like him**, because we shall see him as he is. 3And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

## C. Glorification

What will this body be like? There are many things we do not know. But we can *study the Gospels, Acts* and other places to see what the physical body of Jesus was like after the resurrection. We do know *the body that dies, is the body that rises.*

## C. Glorification

1. He was *physical*!
2. He could *appear* and *disappear* at will.
3. He could *eat*.
4. He could *communicate* and *teach*.
5. His new body is *eternal*.

## C. Glorification

Because we will get a new body and see Him as He is, we will have a new body that will be pure and without sin! In *light of what we will be like at His return*, the challenge for us today is to look forward to *our resurrection or glorification*, when we will be pure, and out of gratitude and the power of God, ***live a pure life now.***