

Arise: The Resurrection Unveiled

Part Six

Introduction: There have been many world-changing events in the course of history.

1. **Flood** (Recorded in Genesis 7)

- ✓ Continents are different and mountains higher

You who laid the foundations of the earth, So that it should not be moved forever, 6 You covered it with the deep as with a garment; The waters stood above the mountains. 7 At Your rebuke they fled; At the voice of Your thunder they hastened away. 8 They went up over the mountains; They went down into the valleys, To the place which You founded for them. 9 You have set a boundary that they may not pass over, That they may not return to cover the earth. Psalms 104:5-9 NKJV

- ✓ Climate change (seedtime, harvest, cold, heat, summer, winter)

"While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease." Genesis 8:22 NKJV

- ✓ Shortened lifespan (before flood-900+, after flood, 8 generations later-Abraham died at 175 and a ripe old age)

2. **Collapse (fall) the of Roman Empire**

- ✓ Prospered for more than 700 years, but collapsed in 476 AD
- ✓ Infrastructure (roads, education, quality of life) unraveled
- ✓ Dark ages of no development, church corruption, and tribal fighting

3. **Invention of the Printing Press**

- ✓ 1440-Johannes Gutenberg (before then, books were copied by hand)
- ✓ Very few books
- ✓ By 1500 printing shops in every major city-more than 9 million copies of books
- ✓ Most were Biblical and religious books
- ✓ 1501 Pope Alexander VI threatened to excommunicate anyone who published a book without the approval of the Catholic church
- ✓ Luther and Calvin already did that in 1520's and 30's. Led to Protestant Reformation.

4. World War II

- ✓ Propelled USSR and USA into super power status
- ✓ Destroyed European economy
- ✓ Left Japan decimated
- ✓ Ushered in the creation of the United Nations
- ✓ Facilitated research into weapons of mass warfare
- ✓ Sped up globalization and stopped US isolationism
- ✓ Led to a permanent Jewish state

Others

- ✓ Abolition of slavery
- ✓ Stock market crash
- ✓ 911

All events were world-changing

- ✓ People never lived the same again
- ✓ But there was one more life changing than any of these

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, 2 elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied. 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 1 Peter 1:1-4 NKJV

- ✓ Peter is old and wise
- ✓ Writing to the diaspora
- ✓ Last will and testament
- ✓ To Peter—there is a single, life-changing event

It was the resurrection of Christ!

- ✓ His last memory had been seeing the eyes of Jesus as the rooster crowed
- ✓ Watching as he was taken to Golgotha and brutally executed
- ✓ The Resurrection had changed him forever—John 21

Resurrection of Christ—still the greatest world changing event ever. Revolutionized how we live!

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At least four ways the resurrection of Christ has changed my world forever...

I. My FAITH no longer is based on hopeful longings and emotional inclinations but rather is rooted in historical fact.

A. Example of Job when difficulty came

He breaks me down on every side, And I am gone; My hope He has uprooted like a tree. Job 19:10 NKJV

B. Psalmist

Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; My flesh also will rest in hope. 10 For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. 11 You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalms 16:9-11 NKJV

"And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You. Psalms 39:7 NKJV

For You are my hope, O Lord God; You are my trust from my youth. Psalms 71:5 NKJV

C. Jeremiah in the midst of Judah's despair

The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" 25 The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. 26 It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord. Lamentations 3:24-26 NKJV

D. Testimony of Emmaus travelers—sense of all!

But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened. Luke 24:21 NKJV

E. Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. 1 Peter 1:3-4 NKJV

(Living Hope)-Jesus is alive!

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 2 Peter 1:16-17 NKJV

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life. 1 John 1:1 NKJV

MY FAITH BASED ON THE FACT OF HIS RESURRECTION!

II. My FINANCES are no longer limited by my personal earning power but rather have become the seed, possessing limitless power and potential.

A. The resurrection of Christ became the grand example of the power of seed planted.

But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. 24 Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. John 12:23-24 NKJV

B. That principle has become the foundation for our giving

But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. 7 So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. 9 As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." 10 Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 NKJV

C. We give knowing the supernatural power of God to multiply the seed

1. He gives us the seed to sow
2. And blesses/multiplies the seed when we give

III. My FIGHT is no longer waged against an enemy with real control or access to my weakness but rather against one who has been spoiled and ultimately defeated.

And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. Colossians 2:13-15 NKJV

A. Prior to the cross-principalities extended more control

1. Gospel accounts show Jesus battling with them
2. Disciples unable to deliver boy

B. The cross spoiled their power

NOTE:

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints. Ephesians 6:12-18 NKJV

1. Our battle is against spoiled principalities
2. Armor of God-Word-we can overcome

C. The cross defeated their power-resurrection validated their defeat

I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death. Revelation 1:18 NKJV

IV. My FAILURES no longer define me but rather become spring boards to new kingdom effectiveness.

(ILL) Peter's failure—had Jesus stayed in the tomb, he would have been defined by failure.

- A. Living hope
- B. By resurrection from the dead
- C. At Galilee
- D. At Pentecost
- E. Now with a pen he writes

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1:3 NKJV

Conclusion: Many important moments—none like Christ's resurrection from the dead!