



SERMON NOTES

Week 6 April 20, 2025

“The Resurrection and the Life”

Mark 8:31, 9:32; Psalm 6:5; John 11:20–21, 23–27;
1 Corinthians 15:20, 22–23

I. Introduction

- A. When we experience the _____ of a loved one, well-meaning people try and comfort us with various clichés and sayings. (They’re in a better place, time heals all wounds etc.)
- B. Jesus actually _____ his death and resurrection on multiple occasions.
- C. If Jesus had not risen from the dead, life's greatest _____ would have remained unexplained.

II. Evolving Theories About the Afterlife

- A. Most people in the world believe in some form of the immortality of the _____.
- B. Socrates suggested that every soul got put in a different body over and over and over and over; and it was just _____ forever.
- C. The Greeks decided that it's not about endless reincarnation - when the person dies, they joined _____ who was the God of the underworld.
- D. In between the Old- and the New Testament, a group of Jewish people proposed the concept of resurrection of the _____ not just the soul.

III. Jesus Addresses the Problem

- A. Jesus validated his authority to _____ sin by reversing the consequences of sin.
- B. Jesus’ death erased our sin, his resurrection illustrated our _____.
- C. The apostle Paul tells us that Jesus rose _____ to confirm the possibility of resurrection, that Jesus’ resurrection was proof of the concept of resurrection.

IV. Application

- A. We believe Jesus rose from the dead because of the _____ testimony.
- B. The implications of the resurrection of Jesus: what God did for Jesus he will do for _____.
- C. The question for us is: can we say along with _____ “I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”?

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *April 21-26, 2025*

INTRODUCTION

Four days after Jesus' friend Lazarus died, Jesus came to the village where Lazarus' body was laid in a tomb. Lazarus' sister Mary said to Jesus upon his arrival "if you had been here, my brother would not have died." Jesus replied by saying "I am the resurrection and the life." This is one of Jesus' famous 'I Am' sayings, but what does that statement mean for us today?

Monday: John 20:11-18

When Jesus spoke her name, Mary rapidly moved from utter despair to unbelievable joy. How can you more and more come to know the "sound" of Jesus' loving, caring voice "whispering" in your mind? What steps may help you make and keep your relationship with Jesus personal, linking your heart and his, rather than merely an academic exercise?

Tuesday: Luke 24:13-32

Scholar William Barclay said this story "tells us of the ability of Jesus to make sense of things... Jesus came and talked with them, and the meaning of life became clear and the darkness became light... It is only in Jesus that, even in the bewildering times, we learn what life means." * Can you recall any moments when something painful and puzzling suddenly made more sense in the light of Jesus' love and grace?

Wednesday: Luke 24:36-45

Pastor Bruce Larson noted that Luke was "familiar with the Greek philosophy that the body and its appetites were evil. The soul and mind were good. The Greeks believed that in death the mind and spirit were freed from their bondage to the body... Luke, despite his Greek background, underscored the Hebrew theology... of the unity of body, mind, and soul." ** Later the Apostles' Creed said, "I believe in the resurrection of the body." Do you believe in that, and count on it?

Thursday: John 20:19-29

John's gospel pointed readers to the Genesis 1-3 creation stories. After Jesus gave the disciples their mission, "he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'" - an echo of Genesis 2:7. He twice offered them peace; and implication of the Aramaic word for peace - "shalom" - meant all that makes for human well-being, not just "no conflict." How has Jesus breathed new hope, purpose, and peace into you? In what ways can you tangibly share that beautiful wholeness with those around you?

Friday: Mark 16:7, John 21:15-19

Jesus said he was the Good Shepherd (John 10:7-16). To follow him, to help carry out his mission, means accepting his repeated call to feed his sheep. In what ways is God calling you and equipping you to play your role in "feeding his sheep," building up and blessing others? What challenges and rewards have you experienced in answering that call?

MOVING FORWARD

Despite Jesus predicting it multiple times, eyewitnesses were shocked to learn God had raised Jesus from the dead. And what God did for Jesus, he can do for you. The apostle Paul tells us that Jesus rose first to confirm the possibility of resurrection, that Jesus' resurrection was proof of the concept of resurrection. The question for us is: can we say along with Mary "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."?

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) death, B) predicted, C) mystery. IIA) soul, B) reincarnation. IIC) Hades, D) body. IIIA) forgive, B) future, C) first. IVA) eyewitness, B) you, C) Mary.

*William Barclay, *The Gospel of Luke* (Revised Edition). Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1975, p. 295.

**Bruce Larson, *The Preacher's Commentary Series, Volume 26: Luke*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Inc. 1983, pp. 354- 355.