

Resurrection – Jesus and Me

Nine days ago I was called to the bedside of a dear lady of our church.
She asked her daughter to call me because she was dying.

When I arrived at her home she told me that during the night she had felt herself sinking rapidly and knew that she had only hours to live.

She had called me to say goodbye.

AS we talked it became very apparent that she was very clear mentally and very aware of what she was saying.

But her comments were not morbid.

Instead there was a peace about her that was unusual.

It is said of the puritans of the 17th Century
that they knew how to die well.

Rowena Ernst who died three days later knew how to die.

What do I mean?:

Rowena had complete, complete confidence in
the power of Jesus to resurrect her from
the dead.

She knew beyond doubt that she would spend
eternity in the presence of the Lord.

I asked if she had any fear. She said
she had none for she knew her Lord.

Where does such confidence come from?

That confidence is a result of resurrection power!

Earlier I tried to demonstrate that a resurrection is supernatural.

But the supernatural power that raised Jesus from the dead
did not operate only once and then cease -

but that power continues to flow from the Lord himself.

Throughout the New Testament God declares that the same
power that raised Christ from the dead is working in
us today.

How could Rowena have such confidence and peace in the face of death?

Because by God's power she believes Romans 8:11

"The Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies."

Many people in our Western world believe that death is the end. That if we live on, it is only in the memory of others.

Others believe that we are reincarnated into another earthly body, human or otherwise until we are eventually absorbed into THE divine consciousness.

Many Evangelicals on the other hand have a vague notion of disembodied spirits floating around in heaven - in some ethereal never-never land.

But the Bible speaks of our physical body resurrected from the grave. And with eyes that see, hands that touch, and ears that hear and with mouths that speak we will spend eternity with the Lord and with those who have trusted in Christ.

There is no complete salvation without the resurrection of the body.

And the power that raised Jesus from the dead will also raise your body from the dead.

That power will be operative in the future.

But is resurrection power only for the past (Christ's resurrection) and for the future (our own resurrection)?

NO! Resurrection power is working today.

Here is the way Paul said it to the Romans (6)

"Just as Christ was raised from the dead so we too may live a new life"

It is supernatural power that has opened your heart and mind to the truth of who Jesus is.

It is supernatural resurrection power that has drawn many of you to place your trust in Christ.

Two days ago I was with a man who told me that his mother was a prostitute and that by the time he ran away at 10 yrs of age he had

had 12 "dads".

Caught and placed in a foster home on
a Montana ranch - God powerfully changed
him through the godly, steady and loving
testimony of that rancher.

If you had seen that boy at 9 yrs of age would
you ever have believed that he would become a
part of the Navigator ministry and touch the
lives of thousands.

It is resurrection power that changed
that lost little boy into a man of God.

It is resurrection power that will draw some of you
very soon, to trust in Christ and turn your life over to him

In just a moment the choir will sing of where some of you are today:

"I was a seeker for light in a dark world.
I looked for truth but settled for lies.
I had been blinded, I couldn't see
till a light burst forth from the grave and
opened my eyes."

I have seen the light, shining in the darkness,
bursting through the shadows, delivering the dawn.
I have seen the light, whose holy name is Jesus,
His kingdom is forever, He reigns on heaven's throne.

God's resurrection power will change your life today.
Has he opened your eyes?
Do you now see Jesus as the resurrected sovereign Lord?
Do you see that He died for you and then conquered death
to offer you life?
Will you come to him today?

This life would be purposeless and end in hopeless death
if there had been no resurrection -
But because He lives - you too may live.

If you are not certain of your future,
If you are not sure of your relationship to God then let me meet with you and talk to
you about the resurrection power in your life.

"He is risen, He is risen indeed"