

## b. Believers should live unto Him who died for them and rose again.

- 1) The life we live rightfully belongs to Christ, since He paid for it. Duty must overrule selfishness!
- 2) *After all He's done for me, how can I do less than give Him my best and live for Him completely?*
- 3) How **can** we live for Christ?
  - a) Let go of sins. Sins are weights. **ILLUS: Hot air balloons are held down with weights. Once the weights are loosed, the balloon rises in the sky.** The same is true with the weights of sin in our lives.
  - b) Stay in fellowship with God. Having let go of sins, walk in the light with God. Keep your life pure for His glory. Spend quality time with the Lord each day in the Bible and in prayer.
  - c) Seek to please Christ in all that you do. God delights when we depend on Him and obey Him.
  - d) Take hold of God's promises. Someone described this grip using our fingers to spell with the left hand FAITH and with the right hand TRUST. (Proverbs 3:5-6) "*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*"

**Conclusion:** We have noted three reasons that Christ died and rose again the third day. He did it to become man's penal substitute. He did it that we might believe and live. He did it that believers might live for Him. Christ DID take the punishment for your sin, but have you repented of your sin, placed your faith in Him and received His offer of eternal life? Until you do, His payment cannot help you. **He invites you to receive it today!**

If you have received new life through Christ, are you living for yourself or for God's glory? He gave His life for you. Now He asks that you yield your life to Him. Turn from sin. Stay in fellowship with God. Seek to please Him. Take hold of God's promises by faith and trust.

**Song:** Jesus Paid It All, 125

# Why Resurrection Sunday?

21 April 2019 AM - 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 - Resurrection - Scott Childs

**Introduction:** In first Corinthians 15:3-4 we read, "*For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures.*" Resurrection Sunday, commonly called Easter, is a day set aside to remember the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. While religious people are familiar with the Bible account of Christ's death and resurrection, many do not know **why** Christ died and rose again three days later.

**Transition:** The verse before us this morning highlights **three reasons** that Christ died and rose again from the dead that we must act upon.

*The first reason Christ died and rose again was ...*

## 1. To become man's penal substitute

### a. Sin condemns all men to eternal death

- 1) **What is sin?** Sin is any disobedience to God. God has many righteous laws, but the Ten Commandments give us an overall summary: **Put God first**, bow to no idols, **never use God's name carelessly**, keep the Sabbath, **honour your parents**, do not kill, **do not commit adultery**, do not steal, **do not lie**, do not covet.
- 2) We have all sinned. **No one** but Christ has ever kept all God's commandments. It is humanly impossible. (Ecclesiastes 7:20) "*For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not.*" We are all guilty!
- 3) Sin separates us from our holy God. Because God is holy He cannot tolerate even the smallest sin. Thus, sin condemns every one of us to God's judgment in hell.

### b. Christ died for all

- 1) Jesus Christ never sinned. He is God. Being both God and sinless, He was able to become man's penal [punishment] substitute. (1 John 3:5) "*And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.*"
- 2) Christ became a man so that he could die for men. (Hebrews 2:9) "*But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned*

*with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."*

- 3) Our text says, "*Christ died for all*". The word translated "*for*" means in behalf of, for the sake of, instead of. Christ died for the sake of every sinner. He volunteered to suffer our eternal death so that we could receive eternal life.
  - a) (Isaiah 53:6) "*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*"
  - b) (Romans 5:8) "*But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*"
  - c) (1 Peter 3:18) "*For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*"
  - d) (1 John 4:10) "*Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*"

📖 *Christ became our penal substitute and died for us.*

*The second reason Christ died and rose again was ...*

## 2. That we might believe and live

### a. Christ died that men might live

- 1) Jesus illustrated this for us in John 3:14-16. "*And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*"
- 2) Back in the fourth book of the Bible, **Number 21:7-9**, the people of Israel spoke against God and complained about lack of food, water and their dislike of God's manna. God sent poisonous snakes among them and many rebels died. This is when God told Moses to make a brass snake and put it on a high pole. Every bitten person who would believe God and look at the snake would live.
- 3) Likewise, Jesus was lifted up on a cross and died for us. Every sinner who will believe and look to Him will live.

### b. Christ's death offers life to all who will believe

- 1) Christ paid for our death and offers us life, but we can only receive that life by faith. Faith is believing God.
- 2) (John 1:12) "*But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*"
- 3) (John 3:36) "*He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*"
- 4) (John 6:40) "*And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.*"
- 5) (John 20:31) "*But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.*"

*The third reason Christ died and rose again was ...*

## 3. That believers might live for God

### a. Believers should not live unto themselves

- 1) Slavery is uncommon in most of the world today. However, back when slavery was common, a slave was bound to a miserable life of hard work and mistreatment. Occasionally, a compassionate person would buy a slave and set him free. For the rest of his life, that freed slave was indebted to that kind person.
- 2) In a MUCH greater way, we were slaves to sin and Christ has set us free from sin, death and eternal hell. We are indebted to Him more than we can fully comprehend.
- 3) 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 describe the response every Christian ought to have. "*What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*"
- 4) It is not right for any Christian to live as he pleases. To live for self and pleasure, to lust, talk, dress and act like the world disgraces and shows contempt to the holy God who paid for our sin's eternal judgment.