

## ***Sermon Outline***

### **“Resurrection and Mission”**

**Raised With Christ, Part 3 – Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20 – Joshua Harris – May 15, 2011**

#### **Introduction**

1. In part 1 of this series, we reflected on the *new life* we have in Christ. 1 Peter 1:3 states that we have been “born again to a living hope through the resurrection.” We are not the same. We have new spiritual life.
2. In part 2 of this series, we learned that through the resurrection we have *new power* to overcome our old sinful desires. Romans 6 tells us to consider ourselves “dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.” This power enables us to “walk in newness of life.”
3. Today’s message answers this question: what is the purpose our *new life* and *new power*? In other words, what have we been raised to do?

#### **The Resurrection Proves Jesus’ Authority and Undergirds Our Mission (Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20; Roman. 1:1-6)**

1. The last chapter of Matthew’s gospel is an account of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Matthew closes this chapter with words from Jesus that we call the Great Commission: to go into the whole world and teach them to know, love and obey Jesus and to make disciples.
2. An important observation of these verses is that Matthew connects the resurrection to the Great Commission. Consider the logic and flow of these final verses: Jesus has been raised. This proves he is God and has been given all authority over heaven and earth. And his total authority over all people is the basis for our mission to go and make disciples from all nations. In other words, the basis of our global mission is the authority of Jesus proven by his resurrection.
3. In Romans 1:1-6, Paul says that, ““Jesus was declared to be the Son of God in power ... by his resurrection from dead.” The resurrection declared Jesus to be the all-powerful, equal with the Father, Son of God. And his power is the power to save all who believe in him. This is the message we need to proclaim to all because “the gospel ... is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes” (Rom. 1:16).
  - a. “Pre-existing as the Son of God, Jesus, through his resurrection from the dead, gained new power and glory, power now exercised for the ‘salvation of everyone who believes.’” —*Douglas Moo*

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### **The Resurrection Validates Jesus' Authority To Judge the World (Acts 17:22-31)**

1. In Acts 17, Paul declares that the resurrection shows that Jesus is God's appointed man to judge the entire world, i.e., every person who has ever lived. And this is why every person needs to hear the good news of salvation and the call to repent: a day of judgment is coming.
2. Have you ever spoken about the resurrection in this way with unbelievers? The next time someone says, "Oh, well all religions are the same ... you know as long as your beliefs work for you, it's all that matters." You can say, "Actually, God raised Jesus from the dead to show that he's appointed him to judge the whole world. One day we're all going to stand before him. So it's vitally important that you believe in Jesus as the Son of God." Unbelievers need to hear this!

### **The Message of Jesus Crucified and Raised Should Be Our Ultimate Purpose (Romans 10:9-17)**

1. The resurrection gives us a new mission for our lives. We have to preach. We have to send. We have to go into all the world and proclaim Christ. So no matter our station or season of life, our ultimate, driving purpose is to use our gifts, vocation and our location to join in Jesus' great mission and spread his fame to all people.
2. Whatever country we live in, God wants us to see that his mission is bigger than our town, our state or our nation. He calls us to pray and send and go. Whether we're walking across the street or traveling around the world, Jesus is calling us to treasure him above all things and to spend ourselves teaching others how to love and obey Jesus.

## **Conclusion**

1. What do we mean when we say that we want to experience resurrection life? We mean this: resurrection life is a life lived for the mission of advancing the glory and fame of Jesus Christ.

## **Fellowship Starters**

1. Take time as a care group to read the various passages that Josh referenced in this message (Matthew 28:1-10, 16-20; Romans 1:1-6, 16; Romans 10:9-17).
2. In Matthew 28:16-20 and Romans 1:1-6, how does Jesus' resurrection undergird and fuel our global mission to make disciples?

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3. In Acts 17:22-31, how does the resurrection validate Jesus' authority to judge? Why is this an important message to communicate to unbelievers?
4. Josh shared that "the resurrection reorients us to God's global mission ... If we know this Jesus who has been raised, we must be part of his command to make disciples of all nations." Is this what your life is built around and oriented to? If not, how can you grow and change?
5. Where is God calling you to spend your gifts, time and resources to reach the lost? What's something you can do in the next month to take steps in this direction?
6. Josh shared that "resurrection life is a life lived for the mission of advancing the fame of Jesus." Who in your life is the Lord calling you to pray for and reach out to with the gospel?
7. As a care group, take time to pray for a burden for the lost and to pray for family and friends who are unbelievers.