

Gospel Of The Resurrection

“Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.” Romans 4:25

God’s Sovereign plan for redemption is made remarkably clear in the text that is before us! This simple message of the glorious gospel has power, proven to convict and convert those in need.

Substitution - He “was delivered for our offences” Romans 4:25a

The prophet Isaiah describes this act of Christ’s substitutionary atonement by stating, “But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.” (Isaiah 53:5) If that isn’t striking enough to our soul, verse 6 continues, “...and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.”

Pause for just a moment if you will, and consider anew what transpired at Calvary. The cross of Christ was a real cross. The crown of thorns caused great agony as it pressed upon His brow. The spikes were truly driven through His hands and feet. The scourging was torturous to His body. He was spit upon, ridiculed, mocked, forsaken, and even blasphemed. Then, after all of this, He physically, bodily died and His earthly body was placed in a tomb. Every moment of activity that caused Him suffering, from His humble birth to the tomb, was accomplished in substitution for our offenses, transgressions, and iniquity.

Satisfaction - “and was raised again for our justification.” Romans 4:25b

Matthew Henry stated “By the merit of his death he paid our debt, in his resurrection he took out our acquittance.” The resurrection of Christ was of absolute necessity, otherwise we remain in our guilt. (1 Corinthians 15:17) In legal terms, the resurrection of Christ secured, sealed, and satisfied eternally, that which was accomplished in His death, our justification. We are declared righteous, acquitted of all charges, all because He died and was raised. In other words, Christ is EVERYTHING in our redemption. This is the message of salvation!

CH Spurgeon, well known preacher from the 1800’s, gives in His own words the message that brought him to know Christ. The preacher, from Isaiah 45:22, preached on “*Look Unto Me and Be Saved!*”, “Look unto Me; I am hangin’ on the cross. Look unto Me, I am dead and buried. Look unto Me; I rise again. Look unto Me; I ascend to Heaven. Look unto Me; I am sitting at the Father’s right hand. O poor sinner, look unto Me! look unto Me!” As the Gospel message was preached, the Holy Spirit pointed Spurgeon to Christ, as his only hope. Spurgeon said, “I saw at once the way of Salvation. There and then the cloud was gone, the darkness had rolled away!”

For those who are not yet saved, the entirety of this news, the Gospel, is the hope of salvation!

For the child of God, this scene brings to our heart a weighty gladness and stirs us to worship our Lord, Who is very much alive!

- Pastor Tim Hodge