

Understanding the Power of the Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead has eternal significance for us all. It was an exhibition of the Love and Supernatural Power of Almighty God. Because of Adam's original sin, Satan held the power of death over all of mankind. By God's grace, Jesus came to earth and tasted death for every man. *(Hebrews 2:9)* He suffered on the cross to get to the death state; He went through death gaining victory over its power for us.

A spiritually significant thing happened when Jesus yielded up the ghost and died on the cross. The veil of the temple was rent in half. *St. Matthew 27:51-52* declare, "Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And behold the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent." The significance was this: mankind could not approach God because of sins. Jesus taking our sins inside His body and dying on the cross for those sins created a way for us to have direct access to the Father. *Ephesians 2:18* declares, "For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." Since we now have direct access through the Holy Spirit, He tells us to come to Him in times of need to find His mercy and grace to help us. *Ephesians 4:16* declares, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Also, through His resurrection, Jesus destroyed Satan who possessed the power of death over mankind. *Hebrews 2:14* declares, "Forasmuch as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death; that is, the devil."

The Power of the Holy Ghost went inside Jesus' body and broke the power of death over it. The Holy Spirit released life into His body, quickening Him and causing Him to come alive again. The power also raised Him up from the dead. The same Spirit is to dwell inside our hearts to quicken us and raise us up. *Romans 8:11* declares, "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwelleth in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you."

Like Christ's body was made alive from the dead, we were spiritually dead in trespasses and sins. *Ephesians 2:1* declares, "And you hath he quickened which were dead in trespasses and sins. Further, *Ephesians 2:5* declares, "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)" We were bound in death with hatred, malice, envy and other fleshly elements in our hearts. This was death. *I John 3:14* declares, "We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." The Power of the Holy Spirit, then, breaks the bondage of these elements within us. We are liberated to love because love is of God and love is life. We thank God for the Holy Spirit and His resurrection Power. God Bless.

From Pastor Leroy Rankin