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Saint Mark's Church
Sunday School

Truly He is Risen

Code: 7/FE/4

1. General Aims of the unit

To understand fully the resurrection of Jesus Christ beyond the doubt of the Jews and other attackers of crucifixion and resurrection.

2. Special aims of the lesson

1. To Discuss and understand the four accounts of the four gospels about the resurrection. The key of understanding is that each Evangelist talk about different time and from different angle and so records different events. [Matt. 28 , Mark 16 , Luke 24 and John 20,21]
2. To discuss and understand the account of St. Paul in 1st. Corinthians 15
3. To review all the claims of the others against the resurrection of Christ, and prove that they are false.
4. To discuss all the evidences that prove the authenticity of the resurrection of Christ

3. Outcomes:

By the end of this lessons the teens are able to:

1. Remember by heart the main appearances of the Lord after His resurrection.
2. Debate all the suggestions that the resurrection is a fabricated story of the Disciples.
3. List the evidences that prove the resurrection of our Lord according to their importance.
4. Summarize the gifts we get from the resurrection of Christ.

4. Verses : 1 Cor. 15:12 , 17 ; Matt.28:6-7 , Luke 24:46

5. References :

Check web sites under “ Christ Resurrection” , as
<http://www.allaboutjesuschrist.org/resurrection-of-christ.htm>
<http://www.christiananswers.net/q-eden/edn-t010.html>

Lesson Outline:

I. The Power of Resurrection

The devil won all the rounds before the Resurrection. He could make the authorities sentence Jesus to death as a sinner and evildoer. The Lord neither objected nor protested. The devil could direct all sorts of disgrace such as striking His body with whips and striking Him and spitting on His face, nailing His hands and stabbing Him with the spear...Christ received all these sorts of afflictions on the cross and the devil thought that the Lord was weak and that he could conquer Christ.

The disciples hid in the upper room. They were filled with horror and awe, as they were afraid of the Jews... while the sincere women and the Maries together with John and Peter went to the tomb all night long till dawn to offer the spices to the body of Christ in great sorrow.

Sorrow and despair filled the hearts of some disciples. The two disciples of Emmaus were speaking with the Lord while He was walking with them after His resurrection without knowing Him. "... Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered Him up to be condemned to death, and crucified Him... It is now the third day since this happened" (Luke 24: 19-21).

But the truth of resurrection turned sorrow into joy and despair into boldness and courage and fear into courage and preaching... This is the power of resurrection, which filled the church with Joy, and comfort... The Lord Jesus rose with His own power... He rose and the stone was still at the door of the tomb... He rose and His wounds were as they were and His side was open... He rose declaring: "O death where is your sting? ...O Hades where is your victory?" He rose at the time He appointed and left the shroud and the napkin lying in their place.

II. The Joys of Resurrection

The church sings hymns that clearly express the joys of resurrection...she sings: "All the heavenly hosts... all heavenly and earthly ranks and orders... all angels and people sing happily as our Lord Jesus Christ, the True Lamb has risen from the dead". Your heart will be filled with joy when you see the deacons decorate the Resurrection Icon while singing: "O all heavenly ranks and orders sing to our Lord with hymns of praise and rejoice with us today as we celebrate the resurrection of the Lord Christ... The Lord rose as if He had been asleep or affected by wine and granted us the eternal grace and freed us from severe bondage.

III. What is the secret of this great joy?

- ⌚ He bruised the head of the Serpent.
- ⌚ He broke the sting of death.
- ⌚ He opened the door of Paradise.

Resurrection had a great effect on the church of the apostles. The Writer of the Book of the Acts (St. Luke) says: "And with great power the apostle gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus and great grace was upon them all". St. Paul, inspired by the Holy Spirit, considers the resurrection as the basis of Preaching and without resurrection the preaching would be futile. He says: "And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty. Yes, and we are found false

witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up--if in fact the dead do not rise. For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins" (1 Corinthians 15:14-17).

IV. Resurrection in our own life

When St. John saw the Lord in a vision on the island called Patmos, he fell at His feet as dead. The Lord laid his right hand upon him saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death" (Revelation 1:17,18).

The Lord Jesus; then, is Living in heaven and is living in the hearts of the believers. Through the Holy Spirit, He fills their hearts with the power of His resurrection. In this, St. Paul the apostle says, "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death" (Philippians 3: 10). As the Resurrection was latent and present in the life of the Lord Jesus, it is also a test that takes place in the hearts of believers with which they attain the power, the glory and the joys of resurrection.

Whenever our hearts are filled with the Divine love and strong will to carry out the commandment, the spirit of resurrection fills us and the ugly sin disappears. Whenever we overcome our grudge, lusts and bad tendencies, the Holy Spirit who raised Christ from the dead fills us and raises us with Him and delivers us from evil. Through the Holy Spirit, we attain the power to rise up from the spiritual death, "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you" (Romans 8: 11).

1. Why is the Resurrection of the Lord Christ considered one of the miracles?
2. What is the difference between the resurrection of Christ and that of Lazarus?
3. What was the effect of resurrection on the church of the apostles?
4. How has resurrection given the church joy and happiness?
5. How can we know that we have tested resurrection in our life?

Conclusion:

If we have been raised with Christ, let us seek what is above where Christ is sitting on the right hand of the Majesty on High. If we have truly been raised with Christ let us search for the lost sheep to attract them as that who rose from the dead said to Peter, "Do you love me? ...attend my sheep" After His resurrection, the Lord used to say and still says to our hearts, "That who loves Me should feed my lambs".

Audio Sermon:

http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/paradosis/the_resurrection_of_jesus_christ_-_part_1

http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/paradosis/the_resurrection_of_jesus_christ_-_part_2

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http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/sermonsatstnicholas/his_resurrection_is_our_resurrection_john_2019-31