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Saint Mark's Church
Sunday School

Symbols of resurrection in the OT

Code: 12/FE/3

1. General Aims of the unit

To live and understand the major feasts of our church and to benefit spiritually from their glories and power.

2. Special aims of the lesson

1. To Understand the significance of the resurrection of our Lord in our Christian faith
2. To highlight the fact that the resurrection of our Lord was embedded in the prophecies and events of the OT
3. To study in depth the important prophecies and symbols in the OT (which details the whole picture of resurrection)

3. Outcomes:

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

1. Summarize all the appearances of the Lord Jesus after His resurrection (which are recorded in the four gospels and in 1 Cor. 15:4-9) .
2. Summarize the graces given to the human race through His resurrection.
3. Relate the resurrection of Christ to the OT prophecies and symbols as a great proof of the authenticity of bible
4. Express in his/her own words the similarities between the OT symbols and prophecies and the resurrection events

4. Verses : 1. Matt. 12:40 , Psalms 3:5

5. References : attached notes

6. Lesson Delivery

1. Go quickly through the outcomes 1 & 2 and be sure the main concepts are very very clear as this is the basic of Christianity. If the details of appearances and gifts of the Lord's resurrection are not understood fully , let this be the lesson and do not proceed.
2. Small groups formed , each to study a set of prophecies and symbols prepared to them and presented in a sheet A-4 . Servants to help the groups to understand the meaning

and similarities (if the time is not enough , may be a part only of these prophecies and symbols is studied)

3. A representative of each small group to summarise the outcomes in the small group to the whole group.
 4. A report about the efficiency of this method (or any other method) for further improvements.
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*Saint Mark's Church
Servants Meeting*

The Resurrection in the OT (Prophecies and Symbols)

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ The Resurrection is not in the vocabulary of the normal people. For them, the last chapter of life is death . What is beyond death is a mystery. But for the Lord's people there is a tunnel through which they are able to see what is beyond this life. So, life after death is known since the OT. The Jews believe in the resurrection at the last day (refer to the conversation between Jesus Christ and Martha –John 11:23-24). So, the resurrection of the Lord Jesus from the dead was not comprehended or believed even by the Disciples , till He appeared to them (except Saint John –John 20:8) . This resurrection is not followed by death. It is permanent resurrection . There were people who were raised from the dead in the OT like the son of the widow (I Kings 17:17-24) , the son of the Shunammite (2Kings 4:18-37) , and the man who touched the bones of Elisha (2Kings 13:21) but they died again .
- ❖ There are some prophecies and symbols in the OT which indicates the resurrection of the Lord , but they are in need to “open eyes” (Luke 24:31) and open understanding(Luke 24:45) to be believed.

The prophecies

1) Psalm 3:5

“I lay down and slept I awoke, for the LORD sustained me”

2) Psalm 16:10

“For You will not leave my soul in Sheol. Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption”

3) Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ⁸Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, The LORD mighty in battle. ⁹ Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. ¹⁰Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory. Selah

4) Isaiah 26:19

(this chapter is called the chapter of resurrection)

Your dead shall live; Together with ^omy dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew is like the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the dead.

5) Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹*The hand of the LORD came upon me and brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley; and it was full of bones. ²Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry. ³And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know."*

⁴*Again He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: "Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live. ⁶I will put sinews on you and bring flesh upon you, cover you with skin and put breath in you; and you shall live. Then you shall know that I am the LORD."'"*

⁷*So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. ⁸Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.*

⁹*Also He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live."'" ¹⁰So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.*

¹¹*Then He said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, 'Our bones are dry, our hope is lost, and we ourselves are cut off!'*

¹²*Therefore prophesy and say to them, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Behold, O My people, I will open your graves and cause you to come up from your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³Then you shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O My people, and brought you up from your graves. ¹⁴I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.'"*

6) Hosea 6:1-2

¹*Come, and let us return to the LORD; For He has torn, but He will heal us; He has stricken, but He will bind us up. ²After two days He will revive us; On the third day He will raise us up, That we may live in His sight.*

The Symbols

1) The birth of Isaac from the dead womb of Sarah (Genesis 18:9-15)

⁹Then they said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” So he said, “Here, in the tent.”¹⁰ And He said, “I will certainly return to you according to the time of life, and behold, Sarah your wife shall have a son.” (Sarah was listening in the tent door which was behind him.)¹¹ Now Abraham and Sarah were old, well advanced in age; and ^oSarah had passed the age of childbearing.¹² Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, “After I have grown old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?”¹³ And the LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I surely bear a child, since I am old?’¹⁴ Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, according to the time of life, and Sarah shall have a son.”¹⁵ But Sarah denied it, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. And He said, “No, but you did laugh!”

2) The return of Isaac alive after he was supposed to be offered as a sacrifice (Genesis 22:1-14)

¹Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”² Then He said, “Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.”³ So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son; and he split the wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.⁴ Then on the third day Abraham lifted his eyes and saw the place afar off.⁵ And Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the ^olad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you.”⁶ So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of them went together.⁷ But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, “My father!”

And he said, “Here I am, my son.” Then he said, “Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?”⁸ And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering.” So the two of them went together.⁹ Then they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and placed the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, upon the wood.¹⁰ And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.¹¹ But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.”¹² And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”¹³ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son.¹⁴ And Abraham called the name of the place, ^oThe-LORD-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, “In the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”

3) The two birds for cleansing the leper , one bird to be killed , and the other dipped in the blood of the first bird and then set free (Leviticus 14:1-7)

¹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“This shall be the law of the leper for the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought to the priest. ³And the priest shall go out of the camp, and the priest shall examine him; and indeed, if the leprosy is healed in the leper, ⁴then the priest shall command to take for him who is to be cleansed two living and clean birds, cedar wood, scarlet, and hyssop. ⁵And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water. ⁶As for the living bird, he shall take it, the cedar wood and the scarlet and the hyssop, and dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water. ⁷And he shall sprinkle it seven times on him who is to be cleansed from the leprosy, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose in the open field.

4) The two goats , one killed and offered to the Lord and the other set free (Leviticus 16:7-10)

⁷He shall take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. ⁸Then Aaron shall cast lots for the two goats: one lot for the LORD and the other lot for the scapegoat. ⁹And Aaron shall bring the goat on which the LORD'S lot fell, and offer it as a sin offering. ¹⁰But the goat on which the lot fell to be the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD, to make atonement upon it, and to let it go as the scapegoat into the wilderness.

5) Jonah in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights , then he was delivered out of the fish (Jonah 1:17 ; 2:10)

¹⁷Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

¹⁰So the LORD spoke to the fish, and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.