GREAT DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE

(Special English Edition)

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THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

INTRODUCTION

Christ rose from the dead never to die again. He rose with a real body that could eat and drink. He was not resurrected just because He was a good man who lived a life without sin. The fact that Christ rose from the dead made Him different from any other person. Because He rose from the dead we have the story of His life today. The disciples preached the resurrection as the main doctrine of Christianity. We must understand the meaning of the resurrection. In order to teach the Gospel, you must know what the resurrection means.

IMPORTANCE OF THIS LESSON

- □ Christianity is different from all the other religions in this world. The founder of Christianity is the only one who rose from the dead with a real body, never to die again. No other founder of a religion died and rose again. Only Christ did this.
- □ For salvation you must believe that Christ rose from the dead (Romans 10:9).
- ☐ The resurrection of Christ shows us that three other doctrines are true:
 - That He was born (Hebrews 10:5).
 - That He was born by a woman who had never been with a man (Matthew 1:18).
 - That He died for our sins (1 Corinthians 15:3; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15).
- □ The resurrection shows us that Christ is God and that He is Lord over all people (1 Corinthians 15:57; Acts 16:31; Romans 1:4). After the resurrection, the Bible uses His complete title, **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**.
- □ If Christ did not rise from the dead:
 - "The Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5) loses its importance.
 - There would have been no Pentecost (John 14:16-17; 16:7; Acts 1:4-8).
 - There would be no New Testament (Acts 1:1-2; 1 John 1:1-2).
 - Christians would not have the power of a new life (Philippians 3:10; Acts 1:8; Romans 6:4).
- ☐ The doctrine of the resurrection is important because the New Testament talks about it so many times.
 - The New Testament talks about it specifically over 100 times.
 - The writer of each of the Gospels talks about it.
 - There are twenty short speeches in the book of Acts. Thirteen of these speeches talk about the resurrection.
 - Paul made it the main doctrine in the Epistles that he wrote.
- □ We can see the importance of the resurrection in what Paul says in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. Some of the people in Corinth said that a resurrection is impossible. Paul says that if there is no resurrection then:
 - Christ did not rise from the dead (verses 13,16).
 - Preaching had no meaning. Preaching would be a waste of time (verse 14).
 - The faith of the believer is worth nothing (verse 14).
 - The apostles and all preachers are liars (verse 15).
 - The apostles were false witnesses against God (verse 15).
 - The believers who are in the grave will never rise from the dead (verses 15 and 18).
 - Believing in Christ has no purpose (verse 17).
 - Believers who have died are still lost in sin and separated from God (verses 17 and 18).
 - Christians are not free, they are still lost in their sins (verse 17)
 - The grave is the end. There is no hope after death. There is no heaven (verse 19).

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- The Bible has tricked all believers; we are more unhappy than anyone else. People should feel sorry for us (verse 19).
- ☐ If we say that Christ did not rise from the dead then:
 - Christ lied to His followers.
 - Pentecost is only an idea.
 - Our Christian life is only a trick to make us think we are Christians.
 - The Bible is not true.
 - There is no forgiveness for sin.
 - People have no hope for eternal life.
 - The future is dark and nobody can know what will happen.

THE LESSON

I. PROOFS OF THE RESURRECTION

- A. The tomb was empty. Christ rose from the dead with a real body. This is a FACT. Some people teach that only the spirit of Christ rose from the grave. They say that His dead body stayed in the grave. This is not true. All the facts in the Gospel stories tell us that Christ rose from the dead.
 - 1. The words of the angel "He is not here" (Matthew 28:6).
 - 2. The women saw that the grave was empty (Luke 24:3).
 - 3. Mary Magdalene saw that the grave was empty (John 20:1-2).
 - 4. Peter and John saw that the grave was empty (John 20:3-7).
 - 5. Nobody could steal the body of Jesus while the Roman guards were there. Pilate sealed the grave. The priest paid the soldiers so they would lie. (Compare Matthew 27:63-66 and Matthew 28:12-15).
 - 6. The linens were folded and put down in perfect order. If a thief had stolen the body, he would not do that (John 20:7).
 - 7. His disciples recognized Him and they touched Him. Christ still had the scars of the nails in His hands (John 20:25-27).
 - 8. Christ said He was not a spirit (Luke 24:39).
- B. It is a fact that Christ showed Himself to many people after He rose from the dead.
 - 1. He showed Himself to Mary (John 20:14-18).
 - 2. He showed Himself to the ten disciples (John 20:20).
 - 3. He showed Himself to the eleven disciples (John 20:27-29).
 - 4. He showed Himself to two disciples on the Emmaus road (Luke 24:13-32).
 - 5. He showed Himself to the fishermen (John 21:12-14).
 - 6. He showed Himself to 500 people at the same time (1 Corinthians 15:6). When Paul wrote this, many of these people still lived. At that time they could say that Paul was wrong.
 - 7. He showed Himself to John on the island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9-18).
 - 8. Peter said that all the disciples saw Him (Acts 2:32).
 - 9. He showed Himself to Paul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9).
 - 10. Luke says that Christ showed Himself to people for forty days (Acts 1:3).
 - 11. He showed Himself to Stephen when the people stoned him (Acts 7).
- C. It is a fact that everything happens for a reason.
 - 1. THE LORD'S DAY happened because Christ rose from the grave. Christ rose from the grave on the first day of the week. Christians began to worship Christ on the first day of the week. This day is called "The Lord's Day" (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2; Revelation 1:10).
 - ♦ It was very difficult for the Christian Jew to worship God on the first day of the week (Sunday). He always worshipped on the Sabbath (Saturday). Sabbath worship was an important part of his religion. Jews worshipped on the Sabbath ever since Moses. The law commanded them to worship on the Sabbath. It was difficult for them to change. The resurrection was important enough to cause the change.

2. The New Testament.

Paul and John wrote the many books of the New Testament because Christ rose from the grave (Acts 9:5-15; 1 John 1:1-4).

3. The fear in the disciples.

The disciples were afraid before the resurrection. They all ran away. They changed because of the resurrection. The resurrection took away their fear. After the resurrection they talked about Christ without fear. Because the resurrection happened they became courageous (Matthew 26:56; Acts 4:2; 8:13,31).

4. Pentecost.

Before the resurrection Christ clearly said that the Holy Spirit would come after He (Christ) left this earth. After the resurrection Christ promised that the Holy Spirit would come. Without the resurrection, the Holy Spirit would not have come at Pentecost to give power to live the Christian life (cross references: John 16:7 and Acts 1:5, 8).

5. The Christian Church.

Because Christ rose from the dead, there is a church today. The church is almost 2000 years old. If the resurrection did not happen there would be no church today.

II. THE POWER OF THE RESURRECTION

- A. The resurrection shows that Christ is God. The resurrection also shows that Christ has all power (Romans 1:4).
- B. The resurrection shows that Christ has power over the laws of nature. He can stop a body from rotting. The resurrection shows that Christ has power over death (Acts 2:24; 1:9; Philippians 3:21; 1Corinthians 15:54-57). When He went to heaven He stopped Himself from falling down to the earth.
- C. The resurrection shows the power of Christ to put away sin. The resurrection shows that Christ gave all believers power over sin and Satan (Hebrews 9:26; 2:14; 1 John 3:8).
- D. The resurrection of Christ shows that He has all power. "ALL POWER is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore..."

III. THE REASONS FOR THE RESURRECTION

- A. To give new life and power to every believer.
 - 1. All believers are resurrected spiritually (Romans 6:4; Colossians 3:1).
 - 2. All believers can know the same power that raised Jesus from the dead (Philippians 3:10; Ephesians 1:19-20).
 - 3. The Christian life is showing the world that Christ lives in you (Galatians 2:20).
- B. To promise to every believer that he will rise from the dead in the future. It means he will never die again. He will live forever (1 Corinthians 15:20, 23, 51-57; 1 Peter 1:3; John 11:26; 14:19).
- C. To give believers a Lord who is alive. He is a Lord they can know, love and serve (Revelation 1:18; John 20:29; Romans 10:12, 1:4; Acts 10:36, 2:36).
- D. To remove the guilt from the believer and to make him right with God (Romans 4:25). God raised up Jesus because the work was done. Jesus took the punishment and paid for our sin. He did this to satisfy God (1 John 2:2).
- E. To tell people that sin is real.
- F. To tell all people that they must repent. People must turn to God. People must prepare for living with God or without God after they die (Luke 13:3; 24:46-47; Acts 17:30; 2:21; Romans 5:12).
- G. To let the world know about a day of judgment in the future for all unbelievers. This judgment is for all those who do not believe the Gospel of Christ (John 5:22, 27; Acts 17:31; Hebrews 10:26-27).

a. a Spirit.

c. an angel.

b. a person with a body.

GREAT DOCTRINES OF THE BIBLE EXAM LESSON 4

Questions to be answered by every student enrolled in the Rogma International Free Bible Study Course Register No_ Address _____ Choose and Round O the correct answer in the following: -1. Mark two. The doctrine of the resurrection is so very important because: (Value 10 points) a. the New Testament talks about it specifically over 100 times. b. it shows us that Christ died on the cross. c. it shows us that Christ was born of a woman. d. Paul made it the main doctrine in the Epistles. 2. The main event preached by all of the Apostles was: (Value 5 points) a. the baptism of Jesus. b. the Resurrection of Christ. c. the Birth of Christ. 3. According to 1 Corinthians 15:12-19, many things would be true if Christ had not risen from the dead. Write down four of these. (You may use your Bible.) (Value 24 points) 4. Give three proofs of the resurrection. (Value 21 points) 5. Christ showed himself to people after the resurrection as: (Value 5 points)

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- 6. What was the special day in which the Jews worshipped God? (Value 5 points)
 - a. The Sabbath
 - b. Sunday
 - c. Friday
- 7. Mark two events that happened because Christ rose from the dead. (Value 10)
 - a. The curtain in the temple was torn in two pieces.
 - b. The Holy Spirit was able to come at Pentecost.
 - c. The Church came into existence.
 - d. Darkness came upon the earth.
- 8. The resurrection shows that Christ is God because: (Value 5 points)
 - a. He rolled the stone from the grave.
 - b. He had power over the laws of nature.
 - c. the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at Pentecost
- 9. One result of the resurrection is: (Value 5 points)
 - a. we can have a new life and spiritual power
 - b. the believer can speak in tongues
 - c. the believer has all power like Christ
- 10. The promise of the resurrection to the believer is: (Value 5 points)
 - a. God will give the believer riches if he asks Him.
 - b. God will cure his sicknesses
 - c. God will raise him from the dead in the future.
- 11. What does the resurrection mean for the future of the unbelievers? (Value 5 points)
 - a. There will be a judgment in the future.
 - b. They will receive a chance to repent in hell.
 - c. They do not have to be concerned about death and the future.