

## *The Power of Christ's Resurrection*

John 20:19-31\*

In his Gospel, John has traced the development of unbelief, which culminated in Jesus' crucifixion. Conversely, John also traced the disciples' development of faith. With the events of the previous week, the disciples' world had been turned upside down. As we revisit the historical events of Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> A.D. 33 we too need to be confronted afresh with the wonder of God's plan fulfilled in Christ Jesus. In our post-modern world the resurrection of Jesus still confronts our fears and doubts.

The Resurrection transforms our fear into rejoicing (19-23)

The Resurrection threatens our unbelief (24-25)

The Resurrection ties us to God's love (26-29)

The Resurrection transports us from death to life (30-31)

\*These notes are prayerfully prepared to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's word.

### *Because Jesus Lives*

Raising the dead proves conclusively that Jesus is God. This is Paul's argument in Romans 1:4. Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God ... by the resurrection from the dead." This certainly refers to his own resurrection from the dead, and it may also include as proof the three people he raised from the dead during his earthly ministry (the widow of Nain's son, Jairus's daughter, and Lazarus). Those three were brought back to life and had to go through the experience of death again; he raised himself in a glorified body over which death has no dominion (Romans 6:9). He is God.



The three resurrections from the dead portray our Lord as "the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). While those three returned to this life to die again, they preview the new kind of undying life to which all believers will be raised by the Lord. Jesus assured Martha and us that though we die physically we shall live spiritually and eternally. And, of course, his greatest miracle—his own resurrection from the dead—seals that guarantee.

Because the tomb is empty, our Lord lives, and he lives in the lives of his children (Galatians 2:20).<sup>2</sup>

*He is Risen*

<sup>2</sup> Charles C. Ryrie, *The Miracles of Our Lord* (Dubuque, IA: ECS Ministries, 2005), 192.