



*Chalmette  
Church of Christ*

*December 6, 2009*

*“The Brightest Day of All the World” Part 1*

**“This same Jesus hath God raised up”**

**Introduction**

Those words found in Acts 2:32 were spoken by the Apostle Peter near the end of his sermon on Pentecost. All those who come to Christ seeking salvation can shout hallelujah upon hearing those powerful and marvelous words. There are many doctrines and practices that differentiate between Christianity and other world religions. But the most basic, fundamental difference is this—Jesus Christ is not dead, but he is a living, reigning Savior. He triumphed over the tomb. His resurrection is the most marvelous miracle that ever occurred (Rom.1:4). The empty tomb is what brings hope to the hopeless 1 Pet. 1:3). It is the most fundamental fact of the gospel message. (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

**Belief in the resurrection**

Why do we believe in the resurrection? Because we believe the Bible and the Scriptures affirm that Jesus arose from the dead. It is impossible to be saved without our Lord's resurrection and it is impossible to be saved if one refuses to believe in His resurrection. The prophets wrote that Messiah would be raised from the dead.

I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore, my heart is glad, and my glory rejoiceth: my flesh also shall rest in hope. For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell;

neither wilt thou suffer thine holy one to see corruption (Psm. 16:10).

Peter quoted the psalmist on Pentecost and applied the words to Jesus (Acts 2:25-36).

The gospel records affirm the resurrection of Christ: He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay (Mat. 28:6). And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him (Mark 16:6).

He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee (Luke 24:6).

Likewise, after the resurrection, Jesus made himself known to a number of eyewitnesses (1 Cor. 15:5-8):

First appeared to Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9-11). To the other women (Mat. 28:9-10). Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-32). Personally appeared to Peter (Luke 24:34). To the disciples without Thomas (John 20:19-23). To the disciples with Thomas (John 20:26-29). Disciples by the sea (John 21:1-24). At his Ascension (Acts 1). 500 brethren at one time (1 Cor. 15:6) James (1 Cor. 15:7) Saul of Tarsus (1 Cor. 15:8) The resurrection became the centerpiece of the gospel message. Yes, Jesus died for our sins, but that would not have mattered without the resurrection. The two are inextricably linked. So, the message of the gospel is not a condemning message (John 3:17) but really is a hope filled message.

Hear again the apostle Peter:

Ye are children of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the kindreds of the earth be blessed. Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities (Acts 3:35,26).

Jesus would argue his resurrection based upon the account of Jonah. "For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth" (Mat. 12:40). Paul would in turn base his argument on the resurrection of all the dead upon the fact that Jesus arose.

For if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is Christ not raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins (1 Cor. 15: 13-17).

Another key point to remember is the apostles and many other members of the first century church were martyrs. They died for this doctrine even after being warned to cease from preaching this message (Acts 5:28). Did they willingly die for a lie?

Furthermore, the apostles attitude toward the resurrection was not the attitude of modernists. They did not teach that simply the message of Jesus was resurrected, rather they saw Him with their own eyes, ate with Him and touched Him. They were firmly convinced that Jesus was raised from the dead. Until His resurrection, these apostles had no interest in continuing to preach and teach Jesus. They were ready to return to their occupations. But something changed them. What was it? The resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Just as we consider the eyewitnesses testimony, there is also much circumstantial evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is evident that these disciples died for something and it was based upon factual knowledge of something great. Furthermore, unlikely people were converted

to Christianity. James, the brother of Jesus, was antagonistic toward his brother during Jesus' early ministry (John 7:5), yet he wrote the epistle that bears his name. There could not have been a more unlikely convert than Saul of Tarsus (Phil. 3:4-7; Acts 26:9-11). Think about the many adherents to the Jewish religion who changed quickly and started following Christ. Despite the popularity of campaign slogans demanding change, most people do not like to change quickly. Consider what came to an abrupt halt when a Jew converted to Christianity, since the law of Christ superceded the law of Moses.

Animal sacrifices ceased being offered. No more Sabbath. Acceptance of triune God. No more prophet or earthly king but a Redeemer and Savior. Something big happened. What was it? The resurrection of Jesus Christ.

To be continued

By: Barry Grider

## Adult Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 12, 2009

Where: Chalmette Church of Christ

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Menu: Soup, sandwiches, and desserts

Bring a Christmas Ornament as a gift ranging from \$8 - \$12.





# Kid's Korner

**See if you can answer the following questions:**

Answers from last week:

1. A fool 2. Noah 3. Aaron 4. Eight 5. Three

Old Testament Novice

1. God told Moses to number the men of each tribe; one group was not counted, can you the reason describe?
2. The birds of the air, the fish of the sea; God created on this day and it was good, you see.
3. The ark was huge, longer than a football field; what measurement did God give the length of the ark to build?
4. Abraham sent his servant, a bride for Isaac to find; he brought back this kinswoman who to him had been so kind.
5. Who did Adam blame for disobeying God? Refusing to be responsible for the path he trod.

**Tune in next week to see if you got all the answers correct!**



The food pantry at the Church Building is running very low. Please remember to bring non-perishable items if possible!



*Cleaning Schedule*

*Month of December—J.V. Russell*

*Upcoming Events*

December 6- Ladies Class

December 20- Ladies Class

December 20- Singing and Fellowship Meal

December Birthdays

16- James Snyder

18- Sherry Towle

22- Veneta Gautreaux

23- Tina Lance

28- Rhonda Jones

30- Edie Schulz



# Prayer List



**Mary Jo Lance  
Malcolm Vasquez  
Joe Riley  
Alice Riley  
Sherry Towle  
Betty Grisham  
Sheila Matthews  
Burnell Rogers  
Margo  
Claudia Smith  
Lisa Lance  
Vickie Swanner  
Patricia Rodney  
William Brossette  
Donny Vick  
Mary Macalusa  
Everett Tittsworth**

**Chalmette Church of Christ  
200 De La Ronde  
Chalmette, LA 70043  
504-279-9438**

**Services of The Church  
Sunday**

Bible Classes 9:00 am  
AM Worship 10:00 am  
PM Worship 6:00 pm

**Wednesday**

Bible Classes 7:00 pm

**Elders**

Mark Lance 504-250-8492

J. V. Russell 504-277-0251

Charles Whitley 504-277-4717

**Evangelist**

**Mark Lance 504- 250-8492**

**gospelpr@cox.net**

**Deacons**

Scott Russell 504-232-4120

Wayne Schulz 504-392-3999

Butch Snyder 504-682-0051

Mike Swanner 504-271-2465

Website: [www.chalmettecoc.org](http://www.chalmettecoc.org)

Chalmette Church of Christ  
Post Office Box 1165  
Chalmette, LA 70044