



The resurrection is the confirmation of the power of the crucifixion.

Why the Crucifixion? Three Clues:

(1) **1 Corinthians 1:18** For the word of the cross is to those who are perishing foolishness, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

(2) **1 Corinthians 15:17** ... if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins.

¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.

¹⁹ If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

(3) **Galatians 2:20** *Jesus* loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.

²¹ "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly."

Let's go back 2000 years ago and investigate

Dr Luke, the historian - early Easter morning at the tomb

Luke 24:1 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

² And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb,

³ but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

⁴ And it happened that while they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling apparel;

⁵ and as *the women* were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, *the men* said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead?"

⁶ "He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee,

⁷ saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

Jesus talks with two of His students after His resurrection

Luke 24:25 And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

²⁶ "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"

²⁷ And beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

Jesus talks with more of His students after His resurrection

Luke 24:44 Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

⁴⁵ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

⁴⁶ and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and rise again from the dead the third day;

⁴⁷ and that repentance for forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.

Peter, one of Jesus' students, talks with a large crowd 50 days after the resurrection not far from the empty tomb

Acts 2:22 "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know--

²³ this *Man*, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put *Him* to death.

²⁴ "And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power.

Peter's second recorded talk with a crowd not far from the empty tomb

Acts 3:18 "But the things which God announced beforehand by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ should suffer, He has thus fulfilled.

Peter's testimony before the Jewish supreme court not far from the empty tomb

Acts 4:18 And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

¹⁹ But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge;

²⁰ for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard."

The primary reason for the cross is stated plainly:

in Peter's words

1 Peter 2:24 He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross...

in Isaiah's prophecy (700 years before the crucifixion)

Isaiah 53:6 All of us like sheep have gone astray, Each of us has turned to his own way; But the LORD has caused the iniquity of us all To fall on Him.

in John's words (one of Jesus' students)

1 John 4:10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

Revelation 1:5 ...Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the first-born of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood,

⁶ and He has made us *to be* a kingdom, priests to His God and Father; to Him *be* the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

in Paul's words (an ex-terrorist)

2 Corinthians 5:21 He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Galatians 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us

Colossians 2:13 when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us *and* which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Titus 2:14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Ephesians 1:7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace,

Romans 3:23 ... all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. *This was* to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed;

²⁶ for the demonstration, *I say*, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Where then is boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? Of works? No, but by a law of faith.

²⁸ For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the Law.

Romans 5:8 God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him.

1 Corinthians 15:1 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

The writer of Hebrews summarizes the power of the cross on our lives with these words

Hebrews 10:10 By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10:14 For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

Hebrews 10:17 "And their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

¹⁸ Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer *any* offering for sin.

¹⁹ Since therefore, brethren, we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus,

²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh,

²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God,

²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith,

All Scripture is from the NASV

*For questions and comments: Ed.Moss@mycpf.org
Please contact me any time – 941-219-9211 (cell)*