

The Resurrection Changes Everything

Luke 20:27-21:4

Jesus is the compassionate King who has come to deliver the widow and the orphan and all those languishing in the valley of the shadow of death.

**He hasn't come to win an argument. He has come to win the lost.
He has come to rescue the weak and the weary.**

I. The Callous Sadducees – Ridiculing the Resurrection

Luke 20:27-33

Levirate Marriage:

“If brothers dwell together, and one of them dies and has no son, the wife of the dead man shall not be married outside the family to a stranger. Her husband's brother shall go in to her and take her as his wife and perform the duty of a husband's brother to her. And the first son whom she bears shall succeed to the name of the dead brother, that his name shall not be blotted out of Israel.”

Deuteronomy 25:5-6

The purpose of this law was:

- to preserve the brother's line
- to preserve the brother's name

It also protected the brother's wife.

Philosophical and spiritual cage fights are offensive to God especially when you have no regard to the outcast, the wounded, the widow and the orphan.

II. The Compassionate Savior – Protecting Both the Truth and the Widow.

Luke 20:34-21:4

1. The Resurrection is a Biblical Fact and a Better Reality

Luke 20:34-38

- The Resurrection is better than this life.

“And Jesus said to them, ‘The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.’”

Luke 20:34-36

“We can fall into the trap of thinking that the new creation will be joyful only if it is like life on earth. Some people become sad because they want their dogs to be in the new creation or want to remain married to a spouse or want their children to remain their children. But we must remember that every good blessing on earth will be ours in the future in new and dramatically different ways. We will lack nothing we enjoy in this life, but we will find that those things will return to us in a deeper and richer way. The new creation will be a world of love that far exceeds the love and joy we have now.”

Tom Schreiner

- The Resurrection is a biblical fact.

“But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. Now he is not the God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.”

Luke 20:37-38

“And Moses said, ‘I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.’ When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, ‘Moses! Moses!’ and he said, ‘Here I am.’ Then he said, ‘Do not come near, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’ And he said, ‘I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses hid his face for He was afraid to look at God.” **Exodus 3:3-6**

“God does not elect anybody in order to throw him into a trash can. As God’s presence with me does not cease when I am sleeping or dreaming or unresponsive in a fever or unconscious, it will not cease when death overcomes me. If God did not forsake Israel, even when it turned away from him, how should he leave the individual in death?”

Eduard Schweizer

2. The Resurrection Marks a Monumental Shift: The Installation and Eternal Reign of David's Son. Luke 20:34-38

“For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.”

1 Corinthians 15:22-26

It's not our belief in the afterlife that saves us.

It is our belief in and belonging to Christ who conquered sin and death that will ultimately deliver us.

3. The Resurrection is a Sobering Reality: The Lord will return as the defender of the widow. Luke 20:45-47

“And in the hearing of all the people he said to his disciples, ‘Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive greater condemnation.’”

Luke 20:45-47

“God shall arise, his enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate him shall flee before him! As smoke is driven away, so you shall drive them away; as wax melts before fire, so the wicked shall perish before God! But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy! Sing to God, sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts; his name is the Lord! Exult before Him!” Psalm 65:1-4

“Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.”

Psalm 65:5-6

4. The Resurrection produces a Beautiful Life: It frees us from fear for the future to pour out our life in love now.

Luke 21:1-4

“Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two copper coins.”

Luke 21:1-2

“And he said, ‘Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.’”

Luke 21:3-4

The Freedom of the Resurrection - Faith in the resurrection allows a person to give their all because he is not fool who gives what he or she cannot keep in order to gain what he or she cannot lose.

The Favor of the Resurrection – Christ sees her faith and her sacrifice and honors her above all the others. Christ sees you. Christ approves you. Christ honors you.

“For your Maker is your husband, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. For the LORD has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off, says your God.”

Isaiah 54:5-6

God sees you. God has you. God will never let you go. Live your life for Him.