



## Christ Resurrection: The Keystone of our Faith Part 2

April 27, 2025                      Various Scripture

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(48:21)

You want to turn in your Bibles, if you will, to Acts 2, Acts 2. You'll recall last week in starting to look at our Lord's glorious resurrection and I used the comment, I even used it in my remarks a moment ago, that the resurrection of Jesus Christ, as Spurgeon says, is the 'keystone of our faith'. So many things about our faith collapse were it not for the resurrection of Christ. And so instead of trying to show proofs for the resurrection, the question that we threw out last time was: What does the resurrection verify? What does the resurrection of Christ support? What does the resurrection itself prove, if you will, with regards to the various elements of the Christian faith? And we started looking at a lot of those and the **first** one we touched upon was: **The resurrection was key, if you will, to the very truthfulness of the Word of God itself.** And we started looking at some various scriptures with regards to that, but I wanted to take you back to Acts 2 to touch on some things with regards to that point because there were a few things that I didn't get a chance to cover and I wanted to.

In Acts 2, Paul, excuse me, Peter, in preaching that first sermon on Pentecost, you'll recall, stands up and starts saying in verse 22, ***"Men of Israel, listen to these words:..."*** and he starts preaching that first sermon on Pentecost. And when he gets to verse 24, he says, ***"And God raised Him, Christ, up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power."*** And then he goes in and quotes a Psalm, if you will, Psalm 16, ***"For David says of Him, 'I WAS ALWAYS BEHOLDING THE LORD IN MY PRESENCE; FOR HE IS AT MY RIGHT HAND, THAT I MAY NOT BE SHAKEN. THEREFORE, MY HEART WAS GLAD AND MY TONGUE EXULTED; MOREOVER, MY FLESH ALSO WILL ABIDE IN HOPE, BECAUSE THOU WILT NOT ABANDON MY SOUL TO HADES,*** (Hades there doesn't mean Hell. In context, it's a Hebrew euphemism for death in general, okay? Like the word 'sheol', okay?) ***YOU WILL NOT ALLOW THY HOLY ONE TO UNDERGO DECAY. THOU HAST MADE KNOWN TO ME THE PATHS OF LIFE; THOU WILT MAKE ME FULL OF GLADNESS WITH THY PRESENCE.'*** David was obviously a prophet. He was prophesying when he wrote Psalm 16. How do you know? Because again, the best commentary on the scriptures is the scriptures themselves, and the scriptures go on and say, Peter, verse 29, ***Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. And so, because he was a prophet*** (There you go, he even says David was a prophet. Remember a prophet doesn't just necessarily have to foretell what's going to happen. He can preach, just forthtell truth. David did both. He was a prophet) ***AND KNEW THAT GOD HAD SWORN TO HIM WITH AN OATH*** (here's what I skipped over and I wanted to come back to, to say.) ***TO SEAT one OF HIS DESCENDANTS UPON HIS THRONE...*** That phrase, 'swore to him with an oath', comes out of Psalm 89: 3-4, we're going to go there. To seat one of His descendants upon His throne, 2 Samuel 7, we're going to go there, all right? But keep going for a moment. ***...He looked ahead and spoke of***



***the resurrection of Christ***, (He was prophesying the resurrection of the Messiah.) ***that HE WAS NEITHER ABANDONED TO HADES, NOR DID His flesh SUFFER DECAY. This Jesus God raised up again, to which were all witnesses. Therefore, having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says*** (Now he's going to quote yet another Old Testament Psalm and use it as a prophecy to show again that all these prophecies in the Old Testament that talked about the resurrection of the Messiah have come true in Christ. And by the way, Psalm 110 and Psalm 118, portions of Psalm 110 and portions of Psalm 118 are quoted more than any other portion of the Old Testament in various parts of the New Testament. But what's it say?) ***THE LORD SAID TO MY LORD, SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, UNTIL I MAKE THINE ENEMIES A FOOTSTOOL FOR THY FEET. Therefore, let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him, Christ, both Lord and Christ--- this Jesus whom you crucified.***

Okay, what's the point? There's another Old Testament passage that was fulfilled by, in the person of Christ, and the Scriptures declare that to be the case, and therefore showing that the resurrection of Christ is one of those great events which verifies the authenticity, the veracity, the divine inspiration, the accuracy, the reliability of the Word of God. Now I want you, having done that, to turn back to 2 Samuel 7. 2 Samuel 7. Why? Because I just told you that in Acts 2, at the end of verse 30, there's a quotation that's taken from 2 Samuel 7, but I want you to see how this works. So what's going on in 2 Samuel 7? David has decided he's living in a great house. He wants God to have a wonderful house. So he wants to build a house for the Lord. But Nathan the prophet comes to him and says, no, God doesn't want you doing that. David, you're a man of bloodshed. But I tell you what, I appreciate your heart. And so Nathan proceeds to tell him in 2 Samuel 7 how David's son Solomon is going to be allowed to build that house. Okay. That's the context. But I want you to jump in to 2 Samuel 7:10, Nathan the prophet speaking on behalf of God to David, now recorded in Scripture, says this, and follow along with me if you will. Now remember, the big picture of all this is: what does the resurrection of Christ verify? Keep going. Verse 10, ***I will also appoint a place for My people Israel and will plant them, that they may live in their own place and not be disturbed again, nor will the wicked afflict them anymore as formerly, even from the day that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel; and I will give you, David, rest from all your enemies*** (and Israel rest from all your enemies). ***The LORD also declares to you that the LORD will make a house for you, David.*** Meaning what? He's going to have a heavenly home in heaven, but the house of David is going to last forever. We're going to talk about that. Verse 12. ***When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you,*** he's talking about Solomon, prophecies many times have a short-term fulfillment historically, and a long-term fulfillment, and that usually apply to Christ. This is one of those. ***I will raise up a descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom.*** Well, that's his son, Solomon, going forward. ***He shall build a house for my name*** (We know that Solomon ends up building the temple, okay, everything's fine so far),



**and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.** Well, Solomon, like David, he dies, so what's that all about? Keep going. **I will be a father to him, and he will be a son to me;** Why am I underscoring that phrase? Because you just read, I will be a father to him, or you're going to see that in a moment in Scripture, okay? **when he commits iniquity...** wait a minute, that can't be referring to Christ, **I will correct him with the rod of men and the strokes of the sons of men,** (That's got to be referring to Solomon, right?) **but my lovingkindness shall not depart from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. And your house, David, and your kingdom, David, shall endure before me forever; your throne shall be established forever.** Okay, there's a mixture of historical fact being foretold, and there's a mixture of historical long-term fact and spiritual truth being foretold as well. Now, I wanted you to underscore that phrase, **'I'll be a father to him, and he'll be a son to me'**. He's referring to Solomon, but it's also a prophecy to the fleshly incarnation, if you will, of the Son of God. Well, where are you getting that at? Keep a finger here, go to Hebrews 1, Go to the book of Hebrews 1. We're going to do a little bit of this flipping back and forth today. Don't panic. It's all going to get typed down. It's all going to be recorded. You can get a copy of the sermon in a week, download it off the website, whatever. Lia's doing a great job on those. But get as much as you can. I would much rather you sat back and went with the flow and understood the concept and stayed with me if you didn't get all the notes down, so don't panic. Hebrews 1, he's talking about the sufficiency and the superiority, I should say, of Christ in every way, but he starts out talking about the superiority of Christ, Jesus, over angels. And he says in Hebrews 1:3, **And He, Christ, is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high;** And remember, he couldn't sit down at the right hand of the Majesty on high if He wasn't resurrected and He didn't ascend, okay, but keep going. **having become as much better than the angels as He inherited a more excellent name than they.** We're not to where I'm going yet, keep reading. **For to which of the angels did He ever say,** here we go, verse 5, **"THOU ART MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN THEE"**? Stop right there. We saw last week, that is a direct quote out of Psalm 2, it is a direct reference to the incarnation of Christ at first blush. Why do you say that? Luke 1:33-36, we saw last week, **you will be impregnated by the Holy Spirit and the holy offspring within you will be what? Will be called the Son of God.** We also saw in Romans 1:3, that Jesus Christ was declared the Son, **a descendant of David according to the flesh** and they relied upon that portion of Psalm 2 as support for the incarnation of Christ. It's also support for the resurrection of Christ and we're going to go there and see that one more time, but I just took you again to 2 Samuel 7:14 and I just read a passage to you where He says, **"I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE WILL BE A SON TO ME"** and I said that's a short term application to Solomon, but it's also a prophecy of the sonship of the second person of the Trinity, His incarnation. Well where are you getting that? Because the best commentary on the scriptures is the scriptures themselves and look at the rest of Hebrews 1:5, And again to which of the angels did He ever say, **And again, I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME.** What am I saying? Hebrews 1:5 is a commentary on 2 Samuel 7:14, and right there it says that first portion of 2 Samuel 7:14



where he says ***I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME*** is a prediction of the Sonship of Christ. Remember the Lord Jesus Christ, all God, always been God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we worship one God. ***Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God is one***, there's only one God, He has chosen to manifest Himself in three distinct ways which we refer to three persons of the Godhead if you will. Finite mind can't wrap itself completely around that, but that's clearly what the scriptures teach, okay? The second person of the Trinity was not called Jesus, He wasn't called the Son of man, He wasn't called the Son of God in eternity past. He took on the name Jesus when He took on flesh, Luke 1:33-36, you will call Him Jesus because He's going to save His people from their sins and He will be called the Son of God. He's called the Son of God at the time He takes on flesh. There's nobody to call Him that, if you will, until He does that, alright? So what? In some supernatural way and this is a concept you've got to keep the hypostatic union, Christ the second person of the Godhead takes on flesh, Philippians 2, humbles himself to be formed even in the fashion of a man and so forth, a hundred percent God, doesn't cease being God, always will be God. No heresy here, but in some unique unfathomable way He becomes a hundred percent perfect fleshly humanity as well, alright? That's what qualifies Him, if you will, to become the sin bearer that we will get to. But the point is: His sonship. His role, He gets manifested as a Son of God and He also refers to Himself as the Son of Man. Why would He be, why would He refer to Himself, as the Son of Man? Well, it's also a euphemism for Messiah in the scriptures, but He is a descendant of David according to the flesh, Romans 1:3. Mary was a descendant of the lineage of David, if you will, okay? And therefore, He literally, although begotten by the Holy Spirit, not made, on His fleshly aspect He literally is a fleshly descendant of David, that's why all of these prophecies that say 'your throne will last forever', 'you, David, will have a descendant on your throne forever'. Think about it, Christ is going to rule someday from Jerusalem not just in the millennium, forever and ever and ever. He is all God, but He has a fleshly body now, and He's going to have that body forever. And therefore, a fleshly descendant of David will rule on a throne forever and ever and ever.

Now go back to 2 Samuel 7 if you strayed and in verse 16 it said, '*your house, your kingdom will establish and your throne forever*'. 'House' there it's referring to the line of David. How can the house of David, the lineage of David, last forever? Because Christ, God is going, has His flesh forever, okay? The only imperfect thing that you will ever see in glory, if you will, is the body of Christ. You'll see the nail scars in His hands and His feet and the pierce slashing His eye... you and I will have perfect bodies, He will too, but He'll have those scars, demonstrating His mercy forever. And well, how could you possibly say that? Because when He was raised He says, 'Thomas put your hand in My scars. Thomas. you don't believe?' He has the scars, He has the scars if you will, okay? 'House' refers to His lineage, if you will. Your kingdom will last forever, that's Davidic kingdom, that's a political authority or sphere. He's going to rule and reign the kingdom of God, if you will, forever. And then, Your throne will last forever, He's literally going to rule on a throne from Jerusalem. So you've got it all covered there, all right? Jeremiah 33:17-18 and then Romans 1:3, He was, again, was a son after the flesh. *I will make a new covenant with you*, we are going to celebrate the Lord's



table shortly and what does Jesus say the night before He's crucified? This is the cup of a new, and what? Everlasting covenant. The old covenant was typified and shadowing the ultimate sacrifice I would make on your behalf. I am the fulfillment of that, and there isn't going to be any more sacrifices, and it's a new covenant, and so forth. And we'll talk more about that if not today in days to come.

Okay, so I wanted you to see that that prophecy, that phrase there of 2 Samuel 7, the first part of verse 14 refers to Solomon but it refers to Christ and it's talking about His birth and his ultimately has to talk about His resurrection. Why does it have to talk about His resurrection? Because he cannot be a *Son to Me* and He cannot ultimately die and then ultimately sit and reign on a throne forever and ever and ever unless He is raised again, okay?

I want to underscore one more thing to make this clear. It authenticates the resurrection of Christ, authenticates various passages of the word of God so it authenticates the word of God. The resurrection of Jesus Christ we said was God the Father's greatest statement as to the deity of Christ, and when He raised Him from the dead. We talked about all that, we don't want to plow through all that again, but I wanted to get these verses in your hands as well because the resurrection of Jesus Christ again brings into full bloom, if you will, this role of the Sonship of Christ. He didn't have to be born again, raised again, spiritually speaking, He was perfect. But fleshly He had to be resurrected, why?

Now I made a comment, go to Romans 4:25, I made a comment last time and I said it's really critical that you understand Romans 4:25, the resurrection of Jesus Christ brings into full bloom, full fruition His sonship and I made a comment, I said that he became the sin bearer, our sin was placed upon Him, remember 1st Corinthians 15, He who knew no sin became sin for us and so forth. Well, Lia Fusaro had a great, great insight that I wanted to share with you as well in her doing these transcripts. She made a comment to me and I made the comment, I said so if he had not fully atoned for sin, when he cries out on the cross "**It is finished**", what He's saying is: I fully paid the full penalty of man's sin, I took the full cup of the wrath of God for the sins of the elect, it is finished. And therefore Romans 4:25 says he **was delivered up because of our transgressions**, and then it says and is crucified and that **He was raised because of our justification**, not for our justification. He was raised because we were justified, I made a big deal about the fact, justification occurred when He said, "**It is finished**", he's paid the penalty for it all and therefore when He was raised from the dead because of Habakkuk 1:7, because Almighty God is holy, because God will have no sin in His presence, the way we know it "worked", if you will, that He that He really paid for all the sins, that there was no more sin attenuated to His body. He had completely removed all sin by His death and sacrifice on the cross is because had He not, then that sin in some way that was laid on Him would have still been affixed or attenuated or tied to Him in some way, and He could not have appeared in heaven in front of a holy God still bearing sin if you will. So, He completed the work, He paid the penalty, it was sufficient and satisfactory to Almighty God. Lia made an interesting comment because she listened to the sermon five or six times



in order to do the transcript, she's using AI and trying to clean it up and all that stuff. And she was saying what a blessing it is to listen over and over again because you get so much etc. but she made an interesting comment, she said you know there's another thing as well. And I said what's that, Lia? She said well, not only our sins that were laid on Him and it had to be proved that it "worked" or He couldn't have been raised from the dead to ascend to the Father because He'd still have our sin on Him, so to speak, if it didn't work. She said but think about this John, what did He come here to do? He came to save sinners, He came to pay the penalty for our sin, to redeem the elect, to be the atoning sacrifice, to be the lamb of God and so forth. What's he say in the garden? If there's any other way to do this Father, let this cup pass from Me. Nevertheless, what? **Not My will but Thy will be done.** Therefore, His total bearing of sin for the elect was the will of the Father. Had He cut it short, had He on the cross said "I can't take it anymore, let's call it off", He would have violated the will of the Father and Himself would have committed sin. Now there's a whole another branch of theology called the impeccability of Christ, I-M-P-E-C-C-A-B-I-L-I-T-Y and it basically is a theological doctrine that Christ could not have sinned. We'll save that for another month but in any event the point is still the same. I thought it was an interesting insight. He, in order to not commit sin Himself, I only come to do the Father's will. He had to go all the way, if you will, and thank goodness He did go all the way and pay the penalty for your sins and mine. That is exactly in part what we remember when we come to the Lord's table, the communion table.

So, I just wanted to share those final thoughts with you that the fulfillment of His role, by the way I'm all over the lot on this but I'm getting there, His sonship. His sonship, He becomes a son physically in the flesh, okay, and it's important that He do that because as I said before, how could David have a descendant on a throne forever if Christ did not take on flesh, be a descendant of David, be a son of man, of a man, if you will, and also be raised from the dead to indeed live forever, okay? So it's a key aspect of all of those prophecies about David, the Davidic kingdom, his rule, his reign, his throne, promises to Israel, they're all connected and supported by the resurrection of Christ, which is critical to all of them, okay? Now, three things, **(1) veracity of the word of God, (2) the deity of Christ, (3) brings to full fruition his sonship**, and by the way, he's still doing some things as a Son for us.

I didn't want to jump into it this quick but I looked at my watch and I'm going to. No, I'm not going to do it that way. Let me just give you the fourth thing now. We'll cover as much of it as we can. What's the **fourth** thing? **The fourth thing the resurrection supports**, and it's a part of this, that's why I'll get to it eventually, is the resurrection supports, identifies, confirms, **affirms the complete salvation of God**. That's really why I wanted you to go to Romans 4:25. The resurrection proves the complete salvation of God. We've talked about that, meaning God was satisfied. He could not be satisfied, He couldn't take Him into His presence if He wasn't satisfied because He'd still be bearing sin and on and on and on. So, we talked about all that but there's aspects to our justification. I made the comment, and this is what I ultimately have gotten to, I made the comment last week, therefore a justification took place when He said it was finished and therefore the resurrection (I think I



said), “had nothing to do with our justification in that sense.” The resurrection, He was raised **because** of our justification, not **for** our justification. Well, that's true, but it's not true. There is a sense in which the resurrection of Christ is still critical to our being in a right relationship with God. And what it is, is this: His role of a priest; His ongoing intercessory priesthood, if you will, at the throne of the Father that is going on right now keeps us in a justified state. Why is it that we say, “Once saved, always saved”? Why do we believe that in the doctrine of the perseverance, the preservation, of the Saints? Why is that? Well, because it's true and the Bible teaches it, but a part of affecting that result in some spiritual, unique way that makes sense in the mind of God is that the Lord Jesus Christ is raised from the dead, ascends to the right hand of the Father, and He is there ever making intercession for you and for me. That's why I wanted us to read that Hebrews 8, because it talks about His priesthood. But I want you to flip over to Hebrews 9 for a second, and I'll show you what I'm talking about. No, don't do that. Go to Hebrews 7. Go to Hebrews 7. 1 John 2:1-2 says, we have an advocate with the Father. But what does Hebrews 7:25 say? It says, **He, Christ, is able**, get this, **to save forever those who draw near to God through Him**. Well, we understand that, John. That's once saved, always saved. That's throwing yourself on the cross. That's repenting of your sins. That's asking Jesus Christ into your life. Ah, but why is it that that salvific experience that you and I experience lasts forever? Why is it that we don't walk away from the faith if we're genuinely born again? Why is it that we don't punt? Why is it that we still ‘keep on keeping on’ even when we're living through hell on earth? What is that? In part, it's this. **He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him since**, because, **He always lives to make intercession for them**. He's praying on your behalf, keeping you and me in a state of grace, keeping you and me justified before God, keeping us, “saved”, if you will.

Flip over to Hebrews 9, talking about the high priestly work of Christ, and look at Hebrews, look at verse 24. **For Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself**, look at this, **now** (now, this very second believer, as you're listening to me talk to you), now, **to appear in the presence of God**, for what? For us, **for us**. Your salvation/justification when you repented of your sins and accepted Christ as your Lord and Savior, the atonement for your sins, your justification was accomplished on the cross, yet the effectiveness of that saving act by God in your soul, is continued on forever because of the intercessory work of Christ. He's praying that you stay saved. Yes, He's praying that you have sufficient grace to resist temptation and all those other things that Hebrews 10 tells us about, but your justification/salvation, not just your growth and holiness, your staying saved is because of the grace of Christ constantly fulfilling His role as a Son to the Father, playing that role in the Godhead. If He's God, why does he have to pray to another person of the Godhead? Because He's playing the role that He was designed and He took on and agreed to play, as a Son. And there's something about the combination of 100% flesh and 100% spirit in playing that Sonship role that puts Him in a position of pleading to Himself, as the person of the Father, on our behalf. We owe everything past, present, and to come, literally, to Christ.



As the men come to serve us communion, you know you would think after almost 48 years of doing this, I would know how to judge time by now. We're going to be celebrating Easter next week because there's at least five more key points and multiple subparts that the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ underscore. What I'm doing is I'm taking Romans 4:25 and it says He **was raised because of our justification**, and I'm going to break down various subparts of our justification. And before the men serve us the elements, let me give you the first one. So far, **the resurrection** what? (1) **Proves the veracity of scriptures** (the inspiration of the scriptures, the reliability of the scriptures) (2) **proves the deity of Christ**, literally, (3) **enables the full role of Christ as a Son to be brought to full fruition**. We're not even close done to talking about that. But the **fourth** thing, if you're keeping point of it all, is that the resurrection of Christ (4) **completes the full salvific plan of God**. And one key subpart of that is what? Eternal life. When you're born again, you and I are given what? Eternal life. What's that got to do with the resurrection really? 1 Corinthians 15:22, **as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive**. What's He saying in John 14:19 to His disciples? **Because I live, you shall live also**. If He didn't conquer death, He wouldn't be alive. If He didn't conquer death, He couldn't convey eternal life to you and me. But the resurrection is proof of the fact that He indeed conquered the grave. **O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?** It's gone. Why? For the believer, because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Men, service the elements.

In Hebrews chapter 10:10 it says, **By this will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices which can never take away sins. But He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD, waiting from that time onward UNTIL HIS ENEMIES BE MADE A FOOTSTOOL FOR HIS FEET**. Christ is at the right hand of the Father. Christ is waiting till His enemies be made a footstool for His feet. That certainly hasn't happened yet. That's His glorious second coming. That's the millennial reign of Christ. But His waiting at the right hand of the Father in the meantime is not idleness. He ever is alive and living, because of the resurrection, to make intercession for you and for me. That in part is what He was talking about, when the night before He was crucified, the scriptures say He took the bread and He broke it and he gave it to His disciples and said, this is My body which is given for you. He's still laying down his body in terms of giving it to us by constantly pleading against Satan's accusations before the throne of the Father on your behalf and mine. That's just a part of what is in that phrase, **this is My body**. We have so much to be thankful for as we remember His death, burial, and resurrection. Let's, with hearts of gratitude, thank God and remember the body of Christ. The scriptures say that He took the cup. What did He say? He says, this is a cup, The cup, of a new and everlasting covenant. How so? Because I'm writing truth on your heart. I'm making a whole new deal. This is the fulfillment of all those types and shadows. I'm going to make one sacrifice, one time, for the payment of sin. And then I'm going to, that act is sealing this new promise, My very own blood. And then He talks about His resurrection. How so? He



says, I'm going to seal this cup of My very own blood, but then He says in the next breath, I won't drink this with you again until I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom. That tells me He's not only going to die, but He's going to be raised again because he's going to be there to drink it with us. Let's remember the shed blood of Christ.

Thank You for this abbreviated time in Your Word. We thank You for some of these additional scripture passages that underscore and prophesy the incarnation of the Christ and the resurrection of the Christ at the same time. You say in Your Word, Thou art My Son, today I have begotten You. A prophecy of the virgin birth, but also a prophecy of Your glorious resurrection. Lord, I pray that everyone within the sound of my voice that understands these truths and has given their heart to You and accepted You as their Lord and Savior, would be blessed in a deeper, richer understanding of what You do moment by moment on our behalf. For those Father who are not yet in the family of God, may the preaching of your Word and the prayers of your people draw them quickly into your kingdom. We ask all of this, Father, in the matchless name of our resurrected living Savior, the matchless name of Jesus the Christ. Amen and amen.