

“Resurrection Power in the Real World”

Ephesians 1:20-23

C.I.T.—The same power that raised Jesus from the dead, fills the community of believers.

C.I.S.—As a church, we have access to resurrection power.

Purpose—To encourage connection with Christ and church to empower a bold witness.

Introduction—Hurricane power outages

I. **The LORD Shows Great Power.**

- a. “Mighty working of his strength”—working strength and power of God
- b. His Power was revealed in Jesus Christ
 - i. Resurrection power—Bringing someone back from the dead
 - ii. Seating him at His right hand—over all authorities, both physical and spiritual
- c. Why is the resurrection important?
 - i. Proves that what he did on the cross was salvific.
 1. Provided a ransom and payment for our sins.
 2. If he hadn’t risen from the dead, then we would have no assurance that he actually accomplished anything on the cross.
 3. Resurrection shows that He does have power over sin and death.
 - ii. Proves that He has power over all things.
 1. Includes government, organizations, armies.
 2. Includes sins and habits that you can’t shake.
 3. Includes fears and difficulties.
- d. Illus.—Rangers game see Juan Gonzalez, Rafael Palmeiro, Alex Rodriguez—because we knew they could do it, we began to expect it
- e. Application
 - i. His power shown in the garden tells us that if He did it once, He can do it again.
 - ii. He is still sitting on the throne and regardless of the difficulties of life, Jesus is still on the throne.
 - iii. He can fix your life, He can save your marriage, He can deliver your child, He can fix your finances, He can heal your body...
 - iv. He can forgive you of your sin and can save you, because He has won victory over sin and death.
 - v. If you would simply trust Him with your life.
 - vi. We should live with the expectation of seeing the power of God in our lives.

II. **The LORD Shares Great Power.**

- a. This work of His power that resurrected Jesus, placed Him at the Father’s right hand, and subjected everything under Jesus’ headship, has practical implications for us.
- b. For the church—dative of benefit—for the benefit of the church
 - i. Church—ekklesia—called out ones—assembly would be called out for democratic business
 - ii. used of the church as a gathering, collective of believers
 - iii. doesn’t refer to individuals, but to the group/community of believers.
- c. Power extends to the church
 - i. Church as body—
 1. Christ is the head
 2. If the head possess something, the whole body has it.
 - ii. Church as fullness
 1. **Colossians 2:9-10**
 2. The fullness of God’s deity, power, etc. was given to Christ.

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3. By calling the church His fullness, Paul reveals that the power of Christ flows to the church.
- d. Our connection to the Lord extends His power to us.
- e. Illus.—Lord’s Supper symbolizes our connection with Christ and with the church.
- f. Application
 - i. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead, flows through His body, the church.
 - ii. We possess this power, not as individuals, but in the context of the church.
 - iii. Examples
 1. Two or more pray about something
 2. Whatever you bound/loose
 3. Move this mountain into the sea
 4. Do greater things than Jesus

Conclusion

- If losing power in physical life is terrible, what about losing power in our Spiritual life.
- This power flows as long as we are connected to the head.
- This power flows as long as we are connected to the body.
- If we are not personally walking with the Lord, we have no power.
- If we are not personally engaged in the body of believers, the church, we have no power.
- Some of you need victory over life, especially your sin.
- Will you trust in Him to save you and deliver you?

Colossians 2:9 For the entire fullness of God's nature dwells bodily in Christ, ¹⁰ and you have been filled by him, who is the head over every ruler and authority. (Col. 2:9 CSB17)