

Address: 160 Paya Lebar Road, Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022 Sun Worship Service: 10am, Sun School: 11.45am, Wed Prayer Meeting: 8pm

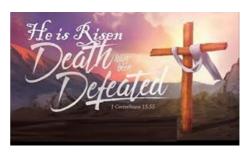
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The Power and Glory in the Risen Christ

About 3000 years ago, Job asked this pertinent question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job 14:14). That is the most important question we need to answer today.



Have you ever seen a corpse or a dead person? Have you been to a funeral and ever experienced the cold, clammy, sad feel of death? There is no life at all in a corpse. Death is inevitable and we feel sad, and terrible, and even fearful. When we stand over the body of someone we love, we often feel totally helpless, depressed and even hopeless.

Death is a sobering, frightening, terrifying aspect. The Bible calls it "the last enemy" (1 Cor 15:26). There is probably no man who has ever lived who has not feared for his own death. Deep in our hearts we wonder how we will do when our time comes to cross the river into the new world in eternity. How will it be with us when we have to go through the valley of the shadow of death, will we fear no evil? Will there be morbid phobia? Will our faith stand the test? What happens when a person dies? Does Christ have an answer to the question of death?

If a man dies, will he live again? All of us will face death someday. But for those who know Jesus, death holds no fear. We are not afraid of the darkness for Jesus is the Light of the world. We do not fear the valley of the shadow of death for Jesus has said He will be our Guide. We may die, but we will not want to stay dead forever. Jesus has the keys of life and one day He is coming back for us. He is going to unlock those doors of life and let the redeemed dead free and they will be worshipping God forever one day.

Triumphant Over Death

Is there a way out of the threat of death, distress and depression (no reincarnation at all)? For the Christian, the answer is yes. To raise Christ from the dead is His resurrection power and that is real divine power that we need today!

If you would have Christ as Saviour and Lord, you will have victory over sin and His resurrection power. You can have the same divine power that raised Jesus from the dead if you confess and repent of your sins and trust Him fully as your Lord and God. Romans 10:9-10 says, 'That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.'

Here is the glorious good news - the power that raised Jesus Christ is the power that still saves Today as we celebrate Resurrection Sunday. It is God's answer to the problem of the total inability of man to save himself because Jesus rose from the dead. With Christ, we have the power to face and conquer sin and death and to face every problem in this life.

The Empty Garden Tomb of Hope

Some time ago, we led a group of 34 travellers from various BP Churches to the Holy Land and Jordan on a pilgrimage. We visited the Garden Tomb, the place believed by many people to be the actual site of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We saw Golgotha, the place of the Skull where Jesus was crucified alongside two thieves. Then we walked to the place where an ancient tomb has been hewn out of the side of a mountain. Like all the first-century tombs, the burial chamber is within a cave-like grave believed to be the place where Joseph and Nicodemus would have placed the body of Jesus late on the Good Friday evening (John 19:38-41).

Unlike the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the location of the Garden Tomb fits the biblical description for the burial place of Jesus Christ. Everything is just as the Bible says it should be with the one thing missing - the body is not there and was gone! The tomb is truly empty! Praise the Lord! As we left the Garden Tomb, we saw a sign which reads, "He is not here, for He is risen" (Matt 28:6).

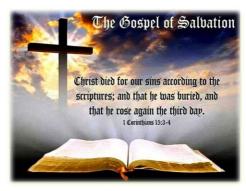
Defeating Sin and Death

There are different ways that people handle their sinfulness. Some people try to do good. Others turn to alcohol, drugs, pills, and others as ways to deaden the deep inner pain. Some people become very religious as they know they need to make their peace with God and so join a religious organization, get baptized, try to read a religious book and even pray and give offerings, or try to take the sacraments. External religion for them is a way to alleviate the guilt they feel but it is in vain for all these cannot save us eternally.

We need to deal with the root problem, which is the total depravity of men or original sin since the fall of Adam and the true moral guilt that exists between

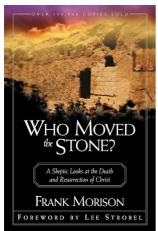
all humanity and a holy God. No one can get around that issue. We cannot be good enough to do good works to erase your guilt, for it cannot be done before a pure Holy God. For Titus 3:5 says, 'Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost.'

Only the true account of the resurrection of Christ answers the problem of man's sin. Paul says, *Scriptures*" (1 Cor 15:3). But that is



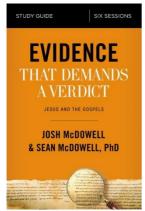
- problem of man's sin. Paul says, "Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures" (1 Cor 15:3). But that is only true because Christ rose from the dead.
 - If Jesus is still in the tomb, then we are still in our sins.
 - If Jesus did not rise, then the Romans and the Jewish leaders were right when they crucified Him.
 - ➤ If Jesus did not arise from the dead, then Calvary's Cross was just an execution of a well-meaning, religious leader only and not God and there are no eternal consequences.

Resurrection Sunday is the answer of hope after a painful Friday for our Lord. The death of Christ forgives sins but only because the resurrection of Christ made His death effectual for all who believe In Him who will live forever. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, 'For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.' Praise the Lord for this.



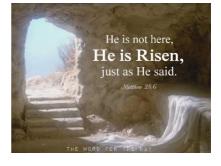
This doctrine of the resurrection of Christ is one of the most important doctrines of the Bible. The resurrection of Jesus from the dead authenticates the deity of Christ. If Jesus did not rise from the dead, then we are most miserable and we have no basis for our faith in Him. Christianity would be meaningless and useless, and it is no better than any other cult or false religion in the world if there is no reason Christ (1 Cor 15:11-19).

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is a well-documented historical fact. Frank Morrison, a famous atheistic British lawyer who examined the claims of Christ critically and rationally came to his conclusion and wrote a book, 'Who Moved The Stone?' and was soundly converted as a result of his research and the writing of the book.



So did Josh McDowell who wrote "Evidence that Demands a Verdict". Paul said that in 1Cor 15:5-8 we have the eyewitness account of many. We have the testimony of Peter, Paul, all the disciples and of over 500 brethren who all saw the risen Lord on one occasion. The resurrection is well documented in the inspired accounts of the Bible, Luke 24; John 20-21; Matt 28; Mark 16; Acts 1:3. Now, if His resurrection is authenticated to be true and real, when does it mean for us? The benefits of the resurrection will be extended to all the elect of God who need not fear death anymore.

We praise God that Jesus is alive today and He is victorious over the grave! When the women went to that tomb early that Resurrection morning, He was not there for He had risen, and it was totally empty! (Matt 28:4). Has His resurrection given you hope? Are you truly saved by Christ and are you also a beneficiary of the resurrection of Christ? Are you born again and assured of your eternal state today? We need to go quickly and tell others of the glorious news of hope (Matt 28:7) as did the disciples of old.



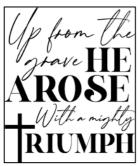
Have you been washed in the blood of the risen Lamb of God? Isa 1:18 says, 'Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.' If Jesus comes back today or tomorrow, would you be saved or will you be left behind without Christ and face the eternal consequences? Do you know that you are lost? Have you confessed your sins to God and placed your faith in the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ? 1John 1:9 says, 'If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.' Have you received Christ as your personal Saviour? If you have, then you have a reason to rejoice in the Lord this morning as do our brethren who are baptized and transfer of church membership today as they have believed and professed Christ as their personal Lord and Saviour as shown in their testimonies. If you are not saved, you need to come to Jesus right now! Jesus is coming very soon to judge the world! Are you ready for His soon coming? Do not be caught unprepared! 2 Peter 3:9 says. 'The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.'

Have you received the forgiveness of sins by God and been released from your guilt and received the peace of God in your heart? We need to look to the crucified, buried, and risen Son of God, Jesus Christ. Look to Him who rose victorious, and you will find forgiveness and



freedom and peace forever when we look to Him alone. Hebrews 12:1-2 says, 'Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.'

Consider the words of the hymn writer who says aptly here:



Death could not keep its prey,
Jesus my Saviour.
He tore the bars away,
Jesus my Lord.
Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes.
He arose a Victor from the dark domain
And he lives forever with His saints to reign
He arose, He arose, Hallelujah, Christ arose!

Jesus has conquered our last enemy. He solved the intractable problems of sin and death forever because he entered the realm of death on our behalf and he is victorious, holding the keys to the victory over of death in his hands!

Conclusion

Finally, Paul gives us a strong basis for confidence and assurance of faith for those in Christ and our eternal destiny in these words: 'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ' (1 Cor 15:55-57).

Our eternal comfort and encouragement to all is to be faithful in worshipping and serving the Lord and to keep on till our risen Lord returns.

Jack Sin

Baptism of Joy Tan Bee Leng - Testimony -

I am the youngest child in my family that worships idols.

After finishing Primary School, I went to work in a garment factory with a friend. I am now working in McDonalds and have been there for the past 15 years.

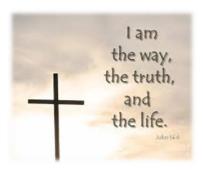


On 3 Sep 2023, I met Joseph & Rachel and Sovereign Hope worshippers at a PLQ food court. Rachel invited to church. I was thinking of going to a church and hoping for someone to invite me.

On the next Sunday 10 Sep, Joseph & Rachel met me at the Macpherson MRT station and walked with me to Sovereign Hope BPC. After the worship service, Angie shared with me from the Bible that we are all sinners and the wages of sin is death. God sent His Son Jesus to the world and died on the cross of our sins and resurrected on the third day. I wanted to believe in Jesus as my Savior and prayed with her to admit that I am a sinner and I need God to forgive my sins and let Jesus be my Saviour and Lord.

I believe that Jesus died on the cross for my sins. He is the only way to salvation and eternal life. I have been fearful of death but now I am learning to trust God step by step because He gives me hope, joy and eternal life.

I look forward to coming to church every Sunday because this is God's family. I have Bible Class with Chan Ping on Sunday and Kin Kheng on Thursday. I am learning to pray to God daily and trust Him to guide me in life.



I have learnt to memorise John 14:6

"Jesus saith unto him,

I am the way, the truth, and the life:

no man cometh unto the Father,

but by me."

Transfer of Membership - Testimony of Marilyn A Esmeralda

I was a non-believer for many years when I was in the Philippines. I was not interested to listen or paid any attention to the Word of God. Oftentimes, I felt sleepy and bored when I heard the Gospel.



In 1991, my uncle invited me to attend a party in their house as he had already received Christ as his Saviour. He started to share the Gospel with me, but I was initially not interested. He played the guitar and sang songs about God. I visited their house often and he continued to share the Word of God every time I was there. A month later, God opened my eyes and my heart to Him, and I admitted I was a sinner, and I believed and accepted Jesus as my personal Lord and Savior.

One of the verses that ministered to me is John 8:12 "Jesus said, Whoever follow me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness."

This verse that convicted me of my need for Christ as my Lord. After I received Christ, I started praying, reading the Bible, memorising scripture, joining young people fellowship and attending prayer meetings. I have the peace of God. I have been worshipping the Lord and was happy going to church every Sunday in the Philippines in a Southern Baptist Church.

I am now working in Singapore. I was invited by brother John Almon and his wife Lily to Sovereign Hope BP Church in Oct 2023. Through attending the worship services and the Sunday School class these 5 months, I have been learning and want to continue to learn more about JESUS, and a deeper understanding about the Bible. I will continue to deepen my faith by going to church, singing praises to Him and serving Him in SHBPC as God leads me.

Glory to God 🙏

The interview
by the Church Session
of the two candidates for
Baptism
(Joy Tan Bee Leng)
and
Transfer of Membership
(Marilyn A. Esmeralda).



Come & Join the Sunday School Class on "How to Interpret the Bible" by Pastor.

A Zoom Training on every 3rd Thursday of the month.



Door-to-Door Evangelism at Macpherson Estate on 24 Mar 2024





What can I or my family do if I contract an infectious disease?

What are the medical options and consideration that I should be aware of?

Come and find out from an Expert at this Seminar!

MAY DAY SEMINAR WED 1 MAY 2024, 9.45AM - 12NN

Health & Healing for Those with Infectious Disease



Speaker:
Dr Shawn Vasoo
Infectious Disease Expert

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Venue: Sovereign Hope Bible-Presbyterian Church 160 Paya Lebar Road Orion@Paya Lebar #04-06, Singapore 409022

Enquiries & Registration: Dn Tan Yue Kay [hp:97450311]

Deadline: 22 April 2024.

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DEVELOPING CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES IN THE LORD

Lord's Day Programme for April to June 2024

SOVEREIGNHOPE

April 7

Discipline of Meditation of the Word (2 Tim 2:15, Joshua 1:8)



April 14*

Discipline for Godliness (1 Tim 4:1-8)



April 21

Discipline of Joyful Giving to the Lord (Mal 3:7-10, 2 Cor 9:6-1<u>5)</u>



Discipline of the Tongue (James 3:1-12)



May 5

Discipline of Fervent Prayer (James 5:14-17)



May 12*



Discipline of Contentment (1 Tim 6:1-10)



May 26

Discipline of Christian Witness in the Workplace (Col 3:22-25)



Discipline of the Sound Mind (Phil 4:6-8, 2 Cor 10:4,5)

June 9*

Discipline of Christian Fellowship (Acts 2:41-47)



June 16

Discipline of the Christian Family (Deut 6:1-25) June 23

Discipline of Reverential Worship (1 Chr 16:23-29, 1 Cor 14:33,40) June 30

Discipline of Responsible Evangelism/Missions (Acts 8:25-40)



Memory Verse

1 Cor 15:19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

Announcements

- Welcome to our Resurrection Sunday Worship Service! If you are here for the first time, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave. Do join us for Fellowship Brunch after the worship service.
- Pastor brings us God's Word this morning on "The Implications of the Empty Tomb (1Cor 15:1-23)".
- Next Sunday, Pastor will preach "Discipline of Meditation of the Word (2 Tim 2:15, Jos 1:8)", commencing a new quarterly series on "Christian Disciplines in the Lord".
- 4. Sunday School classes will resume next Sunday.
- Chinese Fellowship meets on every Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. We have systematic studies on Kingdoms, Covenants and Canon of the Old Testament and the Parables of Jesus. Join us for a time of profitable learning. [Zoom ID:883 9662 4157 Passcode: 218178].
- Creation Ministries International Special Talk by Dr Don Batten will be held on Sat 13 Apr 2024 at 3.30pm.
- Annual May Day Seminar is held on Wed 1 May 2024, 9.45am 12 noon on "Health and Healing for Those with Infectious Disease" by Dr Shawn Vasoo. Those interested can inform Dn Yue Kay at 9745 0311 by 22 April 2024.
- Annual Church Camp will be held on June 11-14, 2024, at Lotus Desaru Beach Resort on the theme "Biblical Pathway for Church Growth & Health". Rev David Khobal, Principal of Myanmar Theological Seminary, will be our Camp Speaker. Contact Dn Yue Kay (hp:97450311) or Dn Paul (hp:97314733) for more details and registration by 30 April 2024.
- 9. Pray for our brethren in their:
 - Thank God for Kin Hoong's catheterization procedure on 25 Mar and continue to pray for any follow-up, if necessary.
 - Anthony's recovery from the radiotherapy treatment.
- Do send your prayer items to Pastor and join us for Church Prayer Meeting on Wed at 8pm via Zoom. The prayer list is available in church. [Zoom ID:863 7527 5431 Passcode: 625551].
- 11. Love gifts, Offering and Tithes to the Lord can be given in the following ways:
 - Cheque payable to Sovereign Hope Bible Presbyterian Church and mail to church address. (Kindly write the full name of the church as indicated.)
 - Fund transfer to Church UOB Account 392-308-825-1
 - PayNow to Church UEN: T19SS0116FSOV

Kindly indicate "Church Building Fund" if you would like to designate towards this cause.