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Christian Duty & The Resurrection of Christ

The physical Resurrection is the cornerstone of the doctrine of the deity of Christ predicted in the Old Testament. The prophet Daniel says, *'And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.'*



It was the supernatural power of Christ victory over the grave that gave courage to the disciples of old in the propagation of the early church that impacted the Roman world. What does the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave mean to you? Is it just a nice historic story to repeat? Is it merely a convenient theme for some message or conversation? What are we to do in response to the resurrection of Jesus Christ? We can answer that question by turning to the Bible and seeing the response that others made to the physical resurrection of Jesus. The ones which were approved by our God are the ones we need to imitate.

Consider Matthew's Account of the Resurrection of Jesus:

In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. (Matt 28:1-6).

- [Genuine Belief in Christ as God](#)



First of all, we see that we must respond to the resurrection of Jesus with faith. His resurrection proves that He was not a liar or a deceiver. His resurrection proves that He was who He claimed to be, the Son of God. The resurrection

was hard for even the disciples to believe at first. When the women reported what they saw to the apostles, they did not believe the women at first. They thought it was nothing more than vain talk from foolish women. Eventually eleven of the twelve believed. They all told Thomas that they had seen Jesus alive. He would not believe, however, until Jesus appeared to him. When Jesus did appear to Thomas, He said to him, *'Do not be faithless, but believing'* (John 20:27). Then he believed too. The resurrection event was staggering, amazing and unheard of that it was difficult for them to believe it. Faith was their response as it must be ours today. When Thomas finally believed, Jesus saith unto him, *'Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed'* (John 20:29). Jesus pronounced a blessing on us if we would believe in Him, even though we have not seen him literally with our eyes. Our question is, Do you believe Jesus was raised from the dead? Do you trust in Christ as your Saviour and have you received Christ, the Son of God as your Saviour and Lord? If not, let us **DIN** or "**Do It Now**" and "**Delay It Not**" before it is too late.

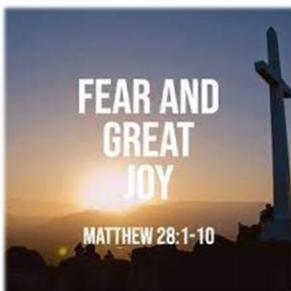
- [Holy and Reverential Worship](#)

A second response we ought to have when we are confronted with the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ is an attitude of worship. When the women left the empty tomb of Jesus, they *"departed quickly from the tomb with fear"* (Matt. 28:8). Fear and worship are not the same thing, but fear in the sense of awe or reverence is a part of worship. These women left the tomb to tell the other disciples about Jesus. As they were going Jesus appeared to them and greeted them. The Bible then says, *'And they came up and took hold of his feet and worshiped him.'* (Matt 28:9). Likewise, when Thomas saw



the resurrected Christ, he said, 'My Lord and my God!' (John 20:28). This was a statement of worship and adoration. He realized that the resurrection of Jesus meant that He truly was God's only Son, the Lord of lords. The question is, Whom do you worship? Do you worship the living and true God sincerely from your heart as a Christian on the Sabbath in a Bible believing church" or do you worship self, family, work, leisure or trust in men?

- [Gospel Joy and Fear](#)



Another reaction of the women who left the empty tomb of Jesus was to share the gospel "*with fear and great joy*" (Matt 28:8). They were so excited they were running to tell the news to the other disciples. Does it put joy in your heart to know that there is a hope for eternal life and a resurrection of our bodies from the grave to eternal life one day? Is there also the fear of the Lord that is the beginning of wisdom? Do we revere,

respect and love God with all our heart? Is there the fine balance of joy and awe that overwhelm our hearts as we serve and worship the living and true God? Let us arise on this Lord's day with these sacred emotions to share the good news to our family and friends, as we live for Him fervently and confidently in the days ahead. Do not forfeit yourself of this holy joy, peace and hope to witness of our risen and victorious Lord and worship and seek Him today and forever more.

- [The Challenge to Share the Message of Salvation](#)

Finally, the reaction of the women at the tomb was a desire to share the good news of the resurrection of Jesus with others. The angel at the empty tomb told them to do this: Go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead



(Matt 28:7). Moments later when Jesus Himself met them and greeted them, He likewise said, Go and tell my brethren (Matt 28:10). After Jesus had made several post resurrection appearances, before His final departure, He gave the Great Commission to the apostles. In essence, it told them to share the good news of His resurrection with the world: *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.* (Matt 28:19).

“Go quickly and tell the gospel.” That is the first command given to those who saw the resurrected Christ. We should go and tell the whole world of this good news because it is such a liberating and joyous truth to lost souls. We should go and tell because it is good news of hope and life. We should go quickly and tell others because it brings the hope of salvation from the bondage of sin. We should go and tell depraved and fallen souls because Christ’s death is not the end of it all for he has risen from the dead and there is life after death. ***With Christ it is an endless hope, without Christ, a hopeless end.***

The Christian Responsibility and the Resurrection

If we believe in the evidence of the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ as recorded in the New Testament, what significance then does the resurrection have for us?

In the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we see the clear demonstration of the power of the true God. Eph 1:19-21 tells us that it is the power of our heavenly Father that raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Note that Job in Job 19:25,26 *‘For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.’*

The resurrection proves that Jesus Christ is God. That is exactly what God the Father wanted to communicate to us, as we read in Rom 1:4. The Jews crucified Jesus Christ because, to them, He was blaspheming when He said that He was the Son of God, equal to the Father. The resurrection of Jesus Christ demonstrates the truth that He is who He claimed He was, for only God can triumph over death.

Our salvation depends on our faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Rom 10:9, we are told how to be saved. It says that *“if you confess with your mouth ‘Jesus is Lord’ and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.”* This means that you cannot be a Christian unless you believe in the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ. If someone claims to be a Christian but reject the resurrection of Jesus Christ, they are not genuine believers.



The resurrection of Jesus Christ demonstrates to us that all the predictions of the Old Testament and the teachings of Jesus Christ are

true. Everything Jesus taught was true, including His great promise in John 6:40, Everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. Jesus' teachings concerning His person, work, heaven, hell, and the future judgment are all true.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ secured our justification. Christ died for our sins and He was raised for our justification, Paul says in Rom 4:25, Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

Our own resurrection depends completely on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Read 1 Thess 4:14: We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. There are other verses concerning this, including 2 Cor 4:14.

The power for our Christian life in the present is the power of His resurrection. We read about this in Eph 1:19-21 and Rom 6:4: We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. How can we live this Christian life? We can live it by the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

The physical resurrection of Jesus Christ demonstrates that He is the appointed judge of all the wicked people in the world. In Acts 17:31, Paul told the Athenians, *For he [God] has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead.* We see the same idea in John 5:22 where Jesus said, *Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son of God.* In verses 27-29 he continued, *And He has given him authority to judge, because He is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice and will rise— those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned.* The resurrection of Jesus Christ means that He will raise up some to eternal life and some to eternal damnation and Jesus Christ will be the Judge of the wicked one day. All who have trusted in their fallen reason and rejected the claims of Jesus Christ (1 Cor 15:51-58), He will then judge them righteously one day with eternal consequences.

Hope Beyond the Grave

1Co 15:56-58 says, *'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. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.'*



Is death the end of it all or is there is life beyond the grave? We can be certain there is life beyond death due to the physical resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. People are dying daily and much more due to the pandemic and many sicknesses and disasters, but is there anyone who has come back to tell us what it would be like on the other side of eternity? Yes, the risen Christ came back to life and tells us there is life beyond the grave. Do you believe this truth? Do you share this wonderful news of hope with others as well? Let us be an effective witness for Christ today and save souls.

The resurrection changed Peter from a denier of the faith into a preacher of the gospel. It changed Paul from a persecutor of Christians into a missionary of the Christian faith. The early Christians all preached Jesus and the resurrection wherever they went. Some in that day who mocked, some procrastinated and some believed. But for those who believed, the resurrection had a life-changing, transforming experience. That is what God would have us know this Easter morning. Do you believe the resurrection? Do you believe that Jesus arose from the dead, bodily and supernaturally?

Christ is the One who has all the power in heaven and earth, and He must be reckoned with. His offer to us is, if any man will confess his sins and receive and acknowledge Him into his life, then he shall be born again. Christ says, *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light* (Matt 11:28-30). This can be your privilege too today if you turn to Jesus as your God now.

Conclusion

We have looked at how we ought to respond to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When we realize that Jesus was raised from the dead and that He is God's Son, our response should be:

- (1) genuine belief of Christ as our Lord and God,
- (2) holy and reverential worship, prayer and service,
- (3) sharing the gospel joy and fear of God and
- (4) obedience to the word of God to share the message of salvation with lost souls with a burning desire.

Will you do it today before it is too late?

Jack Sin



The Testimony of a New Church Member of Sovereign Hope BPC

My name is WONG ONN MENG, SAMUEL. I grew up in a non-Christian family. I believed that I could achieve my goals in life by working hard and relying on my own strength. However hard I tried, there was simply no joy in my life. It was terrible indeed.



One day, I met my primary school mate. He shared with me God's message of salvation. He also gave me a Bible and brought me to his church. I began to make more friends, attended their fellowship meetings, read God's Word and joined their Bible Study group. Soon, I began to reflect upon my daily living. I learnt that we are all sinners, unworthy of God's love which He giveth us so freely. However, we took it all for granted.

But, God wants us to be reconciled with Him. So, He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to bear the burden for our sins. John 3:16 reads: *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

God's love is amazing. Nothing in this world can compare with His. As sinners, we must repent of our sins and put our trust in God.

Philippians 3: 10 reads: *That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death.*

1 Corinthians 1: 9 reads: *God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.*

I will read more of His Word, pray to seek His forgiveness and acknowledge His faithfulness as my saviour. This gives me hope and encouragement.

Psalms 143: 8 reads: *Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.*

I pray and thank God for His blessings bestowed upon me thus far. I also committed my days ahead in God's hand.

2 Corinthians 12: 9 reads: *And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.*

By the higher hand of God, I was led to attend the Sunday Worship Services at Sovereign Hope BPC since January 2021. I find myself learning more from the weekly messages preached from the pulpit by the appointed servants of God. I also attended the Shorter Catechism classes conducted by the Pastor, Rev Dr Jack Sin.

I thank God for the warm fellowship extended to me at Sovereign Hope BPC right from the start. I look forward to strengthen my faith and trust in God, increase my biblical knowledge about God, my Lord and Saviour and to rendering my humble service at Sovereign Hope BPC as her new member.

ALL GLORY and PRAISE
to GOD.

AMEN

Samuel Wong



**Pastoral Visitation to Samuel's home on
his birthday, 6 April.**

To GOD
be the GLORY

i n v i t a t i o n
2.5.2022

CHURCH MAY DAY SEMINAR

**Biblical Insights & Practical Approaches
For One's Physical & Mental Health**

MESSAGE 1

by Dr Johannah Soo
Lecturer, Food and Consumer Science, NIE

**Nutrition and
our Physical Health**

MESSAGE 2

by Rev Dr Jack Sin
Pastor and Lecturer

**Biblical Insights for
Preserving our Sanity
in an Insane World**



MONDAY, 2 MAY 2022



9.30AM - 12.30PM



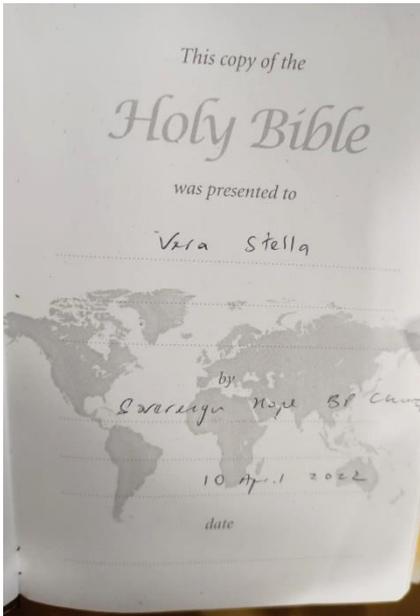
**SOVEREIGN HOPE BP CHURCH
160 PAYA LEBAR ROAD, ORION@PAYA LEBAR, #04-06
SINGAPORE 409022**



Interested participants need
to register with Dn Yue Kay at
97450311 by 21 April 2022



All praise to God for the salvation of Vera Stella, Angie's colleague from Batam, Indonesia! Vera first came to our church on 27 Mar and heard the gospel of Christ from Rachel. On 10 Apr, by the mercies of God and regenerating work of the Holy Spirit in her heart, she professed Christ as her Saviour and Lord after sis Rachel followed up with her with the gospel. Pastor later prayed with her and gave her a Bible on behalf of the church. Pray for Vera's growth in faith in Christ and the understanding of God's Word.



Memory Verse

Matt 28:5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

Announcements

1. Welcome to our Resurrection Sunday Worship Service! For our visitors, do leave us your contact numbers in our guest book before you leave.
2. Pastor speaks this morning on “**Of Dying and Yet Living (Matt 28:1-10)**”. We warmly welcome Bro Samuel Wong as a member of Sovereign Hope BPC through transfer of church membership on this Lord’s Day.
3. Pastor speaks next Sunday on “**Sorrowful Yet Rejoicing (2 Cor 6:1-10)**”, continuing the new quarterly series on “**Biblical Paradoxes of Life Expounded**”.
4. Sunday School classes continues after worship service:
 - WCF Shorter Catechism Class – Pastor Jack
 - Study on 4 Early Old Testament Characters – Joseph
 - Studies in Deuteronomy – Dn Kwong Leen
 - Burmese Bible Class - James
5. Chinese Fellowship meets on Sunday night at 7pm via Zoom with both local and overseas brethren. Included in the programme is a study on Church History in China on alternate Sundays. Join us for a time of profitable learning.
6. 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.
7. In accordance with the Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS) that is effective from 1Feb, our Sunday worship services are for vaccinated worshippers. The measures do not apply to religious classes ie. Sun School and Bible Study classes and hence all are welcome to attend.
8. **May Day Seminar will be held on Mon, 2 May 2022 in church** on the theme “**Biblical Insights & Practical Guidelines on Physical and Mental Health**”. Interested to attend are to register with Dn Yue Kay by 21 Apr.
9. **The Church camp will be from 16 -18 June at Changi Cove** on the theme “**Biblical Precepts for a Vibrant Christian Walk**” by Dr Jack Sin. Registration Forms are available from Dn Yue Kay and all are encouraged to register as soon as possible as there is a limited capacity.
10. Monthly Neighbourhood Bible Class will next meet on **Fri 6 May 2022, 7.30pm in church** on the study of 2 Samuel. Come and join us!
11. Those who wish to bring a new friend to the worship service, kindly inform the safety officer Dn Yue Kay or Pastor at least a day in advance.
12. Do kindly observe the safety measures of the church and assist with the weekly cleaning of the premises.
13. 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**