THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

Text: Luke 24:5-6 ⁵ And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? ⁶ He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

Acts 1:3 ³ To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Biblical references to His appearances after His resurrection:

- Mary Magdalene (*John 20:11–18*)
- The other Mary, Salome, Joanna, and at least one other woman (<u>Matthew 28:1</u>; <u>Mark 16:1</u>; <u>Luke 24:10</u>)
- Peter (*Luke 24:34*; 1 Corinthians 15:5)
- Cleopas and another disciple on road to Emmaus (<u>Luke 24:13–35</u>)
- The eleven disciples minus Thomas (<u>Luke 24:36–43</u>; <u>John 20:19–25</u>)
- The eleven disciples (*John 20:26–29*)
- Seven disciples at the Sea of Tiberias (*John 21:1–23*)
- Disciples at a mountain in Galilee (*Matthew 28:16–17*)
- James (1 Corinthians 15:7)
- Disciples, possibly in Jerusalem before He led them to the Mt. of Olives, gave the Great Commission, and ascended into heaven (*Luke 24:49–53*; *Acts 1:3–11*)
- Paul on the Road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-19)
- To more than 500 brethren, most of who testified (I Corinthians 15:6)

Arguable Proofs of Christ's Resurrection:

- Not sure of location of tomb
- The Historical account of Scripture (40 days showing Himself to people)
- The eyewitness account of over 500 people
- The Day of Pentecost results
- Sunday worship and giving
- Baptism
- Communion
- Easter
- The guarded tomb
- The theories conjured up
- The fear amongst the politicians and religious leaders
- The willingness of martyrdom
- The power and filling of the Holy Spirit
- The testimonies of billions of lives who have been touched and changed

What does the Resurrection Prove?

- The Truthfulness of Scripture
- The Humanity and Deity of Christ
- The Validity of Christianity
- The Right of the Authority of God in our lives and practices
- The Inevitability of the Judgment of God
- The Defeat of Satan
- The Ultimate Resurrection of all who believe

Why is the Resurrection of Christ so Important?

- It is the cornerstone of the Christian faith the crucifixion is meaningless without the resurrection No other religious faith can boast, with proof, about a resurrection
- It is essential for salvation (Romans 10:9-13)
- It is the centerpiece of righteous living from many standpoints (Romans 10:10)
- I Corinthians 15:12-21 Without the resurrection:
 - 1. Christ is dead
 - 2. Preaching is useless and vain
 - 3. Our faith is in vain
 - 4. We are liars about God and truth
 - 5. We are still in our sins
 - 6. We are lost
 - 7. Eternity is hopeless
 - 8. We are of all people most pitiful

What does the Resurrection of Christ mean to us today?

- It provides hope
- It provides assurance
- It produces righteousness
- The Holy Spirit's filling is the result
- Our resurrection is assured
- It gives authority to the believer both in message and conduct
- God's promises are not vain, but rather "yea and amen"
- It puts the nail in the coffin of Satan's assured defeat
- It impassions the church to reach the lost
- It provides purpose and reason to life
- We know we are being watched
- We know Christ is preparing a place for us
- We know He is our advocate and intercessor today
- We know He is coming again, just as He said He would
- We know His statements are truth ALL OF THEM.