

LIFE RENEWAL THROUGH THE POWER OF RESURRECTION II

²⁵ *He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification. (Romans 4:25)*

- If Jesus hadn't died on the cross and resurrected in the third day our sins would still remain.
- Jesus was willing to pay the price and die on the cross in our place because of His love to us.
- His resurrection proves that by faith we can be called righteous; and we are called righteous not because we did something to deserve it but because He overcame the power of sin on the cross.
- Often times the enemy puts lies in our hearts by condemning us so that we would willingly stop believing that we are righteous by faith through Him.

✦ **Restoration through the Resurrection of the One**

¹⁷ *For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ! (Romans 5:17)*

- Adam's fall lead to death; due to his sin, he allowed death to rightfully reign over him and the whole human race that followed.
- However, Jesus has overcome death, handing back to us the authority to reign on earth from the hands of the enemy.
- If the fall of one man, Adam, impacted the whole human race, then much greater impact will those who believe in Jesus have in this world? For He was able to overcome the power of death and its dominion over us.
- If the enemy condemns you for your weaknesses, then you should tell him to retreat because Jesus' death has overcome your weaknesses and sins. By faith, you are made righteous.
- Jesus resurrected so that our relationship and position with the Father can be restored. He has died and resurrected so that we may live a life of excellency; a life of a king.

✦ **Set Free From the Power of Darkness**

- In the Old Testament, we seldom see people casting out spirits. That is because before the coming of Jesus, the world was still under the dominion and power of death and sin. Therefore, evil spirits were legal to inhabit among men. However, after the death and resurrection of Christ, Jesus took keys of hell and death from the hands of Satan, so that these spirits no longer remain legal to inhabit among men. Thus, in the New Testament we see disciples casting out demons and spirits.
- **Testimony #1:** During Dr. Renny's Conference "Set Time with God," a sister felt like throwing up from the start of worship and throughout the message when Dr. Renny was preaching. Near the end of the message, she felt as if spirits were being pulled out from her mind. After the service ended, she called her mother and found out that during the conference, her mother was at the temple praying to other gods over her life. In the past, this sister would tell her mother to stop praying for her in the temple because she

feared that these spirits would have control over her life. However, after the deliverance, she no longer fears its control because she firmly believes that she has been set free. Moreover, this sister was also delivered from bitterness towards a friend who recently got baptized. She felt complete joy because she knew that they were a family in the Spirit. During the last session of the conference, while taking communion at the end of the meeting, she felt as if her whole body was being peeled away. As if her old self was being removed, and become resurrected with Christ.

- When we align ourselves with God, the power of His resurrection can come upon us so that we may be delivered from our sins.
- **Testimony #2:** One of the worship team members who became Christian for not more than two years always felt that her spiritual life was not as mature and as strong as her other team members. Since her worship leader seldom smiled, she also felt bitterness towards him because she thought that he did not like her. However, during the conference she realized that the worship team was a like family and that everyone cared for each other dearly. She also saw that her worship lead smiled a lot and cared for her. Therefore, she realized that her past views about the worship leader were all lies from the enemy. When all the meetings were over, in the parking lot, Dr. Renny told the team to “Stay in the Glory,” and though this was directed to the whole team, this sister felt that it was speaking to her. In her car she continued to worship God and God spoke to her and said “I am alive, and I live in you, so you don’t have to be afraid.” When God told her that, she became deeply moved and encouraged in His presence. She began to enjoy doing QT and reading God’s words, which in the past were like a responsibility to her.
- When Jesus lives within us, He wants to take us away from believing all the lies that the enemy has seeded in our hearts.
- Jesus came to set us free, and restore our image and position. He came to restore us to become the people that He has made us to be during the creation.

✦ **Dying to Self, Resurrecting with Christ**

¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. (Philippians 3:10-12)

- In the past, Paul persecuted and killed many Christians. His past actions could have become strong accusations over his life and the reason for him to doubt of his righteousness. However, Paul knew in his heart that he was saved by Jesus, and called righteous by faith. He knew that Christ fully knew his past and fully accepted him despite of it.

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and[a] went into the holy city and appeared to many people. (Matthew 27:51-53)

- The parting (breaking) of the curtain means that there is no longer separation between men and God. Through Jesus' death, our relationship with the Father has been restored.

¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength ²⁰ he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, (Ephesians 1:19-20)

- The power of Jesus' resurrection remains even now at present time, so that whoever believes in Him may also manifest the power of His resurrection.
- Jesus wants us to live an abundant life and to have all of Him.
- In all His life, Jesus was despised not respected by men. Thus, when we are willing to suffer with Christ and die to ourselves, we will become resurrected with Him.
- Having become resurrected with Christ and dead to this world, we must also set our mindsets to the things above. When we die with Christ, we no longer live in our old selves and our fleshly desires.
- **Testimony #3:** A brother who had years of addiction to alcohol, told his wife that he quit drinking. However, his wife later found out that he was lying to her, because he would secretly drink. His wife was so disappointed that she was ready to write an agreement with her husband stating that if she finds him drinking again she would divorce him and take away their children from him. However, Pastor Grace encouraged this sister to love her husband as Christ has loved us. To love and accept him even in his weakness, because whenever he drunk he was already in a position of self-disappointment and shame. Thus, this sister obeyed and did accordingly. Later on this brother was able to overcome years of alcohol addiction because he felt the full acceptance and trust from his wife. Through her actions he felt the love of God. He also shared that due to the hurt he experienced from His first marriage, trust for God and men was broken within him. However, after this incidence, God restored his trust in Him and people.
- When we experience death in the flesh, we will also experience the power of resurrection in ourselves and in the lives of others.
- All our interpersonal relationships can be resurrected when we are willing to follow Jesus and act according to His ways. By dying with Christ, we become resurrected with Him.
- Jesus is alive to win back His people; the power of His resurrection can overcome our weakness and turn them into our strengths.
- When we are willing to fully surrender to Christ, to die to our old selves we will see the manifestation of the power of His resurrection in us and in the people around us.

– Even in our finances, we can experience His resurrection by dying to our financial circumstances through tithing.

✦ **Discussion**

1. In this month of celebrating Jesus' resurrection, did you experience the power of His resurrection in your life? Please share.
2. In the message, it was mentioned by praising God all times when circumstances presses in, you are continually dying to your old self and resurrecting with Christ. Please share if you've experienced the power of His resurrection by praising and thanking Him?
3. The message mentioned about a sister's acceptance to her husband's alcohol addiction, how she was willing to delay down her old self's reaction and take on Christ's character. Have you ever had to suffer with Christ? How was your reaction like? Were you like this sister who was willing to suffer with Christ and experience the power of His resurrection? Please share.

✦ **Action Plan:**

1. In this season, try to break through the weaknesses of our old self. Learn how to die to self, and praise God for all the hardships that falls and experience the power of Jesus' resurrection in your life.