

## You Know the Story ... But Have You Encountered It?

### Luke 24:1-7 New Living Translation

#### The Resurrection

But very early on Sunday morning the women went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. ... 2 They found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. ... 3 So they went in, but they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ... 4 As they stood there puzzled, two men suddenly appeared to them, clothed in dazzling robes ... 5 The women were terrified and bowed with their faces to the ground. ... Then the men asked, "Why are you looking among the dead for someone who is alive? ... 6 He isn't here! ... He is risen from the dead! ... Remember what he told you back in Galilee, ... 7 that the Son of Man must be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified, and that he would rise again on the third day."

### INTRODUCTION

Today is Resurrection Sunday ... The day we celebrate Jesus rising from the dead – in which He destroyed – death – hell – and the grave ... Even though you already know the story – I'm really excited to preach this morning – much like I was last week ... Let me explain why.

I'll be honest – when I realized the Spirit had given a very clear direction on what to preach this year – I was somewhat concerned ... First – I knew this journey of formation may be considered a bit radical – if not radical – definitely not the normal type of messages you hear from the pulpit ... My other concern was this – I make absolutely sure – that everything I preach – is grounded in the Word ... And to be honest – I wasn't 100% sure the direction I was heading was biblically solid ... I am walking out this journey myself – learning and awakening to things as I climb this mountain ... I know I clearly saw this principle play out in Acts 9 – but the Word says in - - - 2 Corinthians 13:1 (AMP) - - **This is the third time that I am visiting you ... Every fact shall be sustained and confirmed by the testimony of two or three witnesses.**

So – if this formation journey principle is truly biblical – the pattern should be seen in more than one place in Scripture ... This is why I am so excited today ... Not only was this principle seen in the triumphal entry event I shared last week ... I see the entire journey play out through the life of Jesus during Passion Week.

Yes – today is a great historical event that we celebrate each year – and it has huge spiritual ramifications connected to it ... But for me – today also gives me a deep sense of assurance that the journey the Holy Spirit has placed before us – is not only biblical – but is the primary message – of the gospel of the Kingdom ... Today isn't simply an event to be celebrated – but the fulfillment of a journey to be embarked upon.

This morning – I want to clearly share with you – that Jesus didn't just simply die and rise again from the dead – for the redemption of mankind ... He also walked the same journey the Holy Spirit has placed before us to walk ... The journey of formation that results in a fully formed Kainos being.

So – if this journey directly ties to Kingdom life ... If this pattern is truly seen in the life of Jesus throughout passion week ... The question now becomes – where did it begin?

### **The Garden: The Internal Tension**

#### **Luke 22:42, 44 Passion Translation**

“Father, - - if You are willing, - - take this cup of agony away from me ... But no matter what, - - Your will must be mine.” ... 44 “He prayed even more passionately, - like one being sacrificed, - until He was in such intense agony - that His sweat became drops of blood, dripping onto the ground.”

Did you catch that ... Here is the moment where the collision becomes internalized ... The weight is unbearable ... The tension is described as agony ... And what do we notice? ... Jesus

doesn't run ... He doesn't try to fit it ... He doesn't deny the situation ... In fact, He does the exact opposite – He remains in moment and dives deeper into it.

### **Awakening Principle**

Let me briefly touch on the lesson we see here ... Did Jesus desire the internal “agony” to be removed? ... Yes – He asked the Father to remove it – if He was willing ... But Jesus understood a kingdom truth that was much more important – than removing the internal agony he was dealing with ... What was that kingdom truth? ... **Alignment with the Father** ...

Noticed Jesus said – **“Your will must be mine”** ... Jesus was saying – my entire being must be in complete alignment with the Father – no matter what He was dealing with ... So, then what did Jesus do? ... **“He prayed even more passionately”** ... He didn't pray passionately for the removal of the internal agony ... He prayed more passionately to stay in alignment and harmony with the Father's will.

See - - This is where most people miss the process ... Because when tension rises – our natural instinct is to escape it ... fix it ... or just bring things back to normal ... Jesus didn't do that ... Jesus dug in deeper ... Jesus engaged in an activity whereby He would stay in complete harmony with the Father's will.

What was interesting is this ... Jesus digging in deeper didn't relieve the agony – it seemed to intensify it ... Not only that – as we follow the events of the week – the collisions and internal tension seemed to escalate ... But Jesus remained fully engaged in the tension and fully aligned with the Spirit ... But notice the journey didn't stop here ... There was another step Jesus took in this journey.

### **The Cross: When Tension Is Surrendered**

#### **Luke 23:46 Easy-to-Read Version**

Jesus shouted, - - “Father, - - I put my life in your hands!” ... After Jesus said this, - He died.

Here we find an extremely deep statement by Jesus – too deep to do it justice this morning ... But what we do clearly see is an extremely important principle ... A principle that our natural man fights against with a vengeance – Surrender

Here on the Cross – Jesus experiences the most intense internal and external agony any human has ever suffered ... At the precipice – at the pinnacle of this extreme agony – what does He do ... He fully commits His entire being into the hands of the Father ... This wasn't theatrics – this wasn't an emotional gesture ... Jesus literally gave His body – soul – and spirit to the Father and then died ... Then what humanity would call impossible - happened

## **Resurrection Day: When the New Creation is Revealed**

### **Colossians 1:18**

He is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead

Now we come to the moment we celebrate today ... The resurrection – the open tomb ... The moment the angel announces to the women – “why are you looking for the living among the dead? ... He is not here – He is risen!”

Now catch this ... Everything that Jesus walked through that week – the agony in the garden – the surrender on the Cross – and now the Resurrection ... Wasn't about God having to step in – and fix something that had gone wrong in his life ... The resurrection is God revealing to the world – His new creation being – the first born of many brethren

### **Awakening Principle**

The resurrection – along with the following 40 days Jesus walked upon this earth – revealed to all creation – a fully manifested new creation being ... It is unfortunate that religion has portrayed such a shallow image of the resurrection and its deeper meaning ... But what I want us to grasp this morning is this ... The journey the Holy Spirit has set before us is not only biblical ... It is the exact same journey Jesus walked when He lived upon this earth ... It is the process by which a true kingdom kid is formed.

## **TAKE AWAY**

So here we are – Resurrection Sunday 2026 ... We have all been here many time – celebrating this event ... Praising God for the redemption of all mankind ... Maybe even using this day to recommit our life to Christ as we may have been drifting a bit in our faith walk.

What is Resurrection Sunday all about? ... It is about the culmination of a spiritual formation journey ... It is about a clear Kingdom pattern of the formation of a new creation being ... It is about recognizing that the starting point is Jesus ... It is about coming to the place in your life where you decide to make Jesus your Lord ... And once you do that – you decide to embark upon the journey He took – one that transforms you into one of the many brethren that Jesus is the first born of

## **Romans 10:8-10 Living Bible**

For salvation that comes from trusting Christ—which is what we preach—is already within easy reach of each of us; in fact, it is as near as our own hearts and mouths. ... 9 For if you tell others with your own mouth that Jesus Christ is your Lord and believe in your own heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ... 10 For it is by believing in his heart that a man becomes right with God; and with his mouth he tells others of his faith, confirming his salvation.

## **Romans 8:19 Mirror**

The entire cosmos is standing on tiptoe, yearning to see the unveiling of God's sons.