

# He Lives

Taken From Luke 24

The two Angels (appearing as “Men in clothes that gleamed like lightning”) asked the women why they were looking in a tomb for someone Who was alive. People often look for God among the dead. They study the Bible as a mere historical document and go to church as if going to a memorial service. But Jesus is not among the dead—He lives! He reigns in the hearts of Christians, and He is the head of His Church. Do you look for Jesus among the living? Do you expect Him to be active in the world and the church? Look for signs of His power—they are here!

*Why is the Resurrection so important?* The raising of Jesus from the dead is central to the Christian Doctrine. On it, the church is built; without it, there would be no Christian church today. Jesus’ resurrection is unique. Other religions have strong ethical systems, concepts about paradise and afterlife, and various holy Scriptures. Only Christianity has a God Who became human, literally died for His people, and was raised again in power and glory to rule His church forever.

- Because Jesus was raised from the dead, Christians know the kingdom of heaven has broken into our history. The world is now headed for redemption, not disaster. God’s mighty power is at work destroying sin in lives, creating new men, and preparing us for His second coming.
- Because of the Resurrection, Christians know that death has been conquered and that they, too, will be raised from the dead to live forever with Jesus Christ.
- The Resurrection gives authority to the church’s witness in the world. Look at the early evangelistic sermons in the book of Acts: The Apostles’ most important message was the proclamation that Jesus Christ had been raised from the dead
- The Resurrection gives meaning to the Church’s regular feast, the Lord’s Supper. Like the disciples on the Emmaus road, believers break bread with their risen Lord, Who comes in power to save them.
- The Resurrection helps Christians find meaning even in great tragedy. No matter what happens in their walk with the Lord, the Resurrection gives them hope for the future.
- The Resurrection assures Christians that Jesus Christ is alive and ruling His kingdom. He is not legend; He is real, and alive!
- God’s power that brought Jesus back from the dead is available to believers so that they can live for Him in an evil world.

Christians can look very different from one another, and they can hold widely varying beliefs about politics, lifestyle and even theology. But one central belief unites and inspires all true Christians—Jesus Christ arose from the dead and He is alive forevermore! (See 1 Corinthians 15:12-58).