

Conclusion: God's holy children include all who are in Christ Jesus! They are new creatures! The Bible says: ^{NAU 2} **Corinthians 5:17** "...if anyone is in Christ, *he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.*" So how has Jesus' resurrection changed our lives? Now, IN CHRIST:

- We desire to faithfully feed on God's Holy Word (Matthew 5:6)!
- We desire to live for Him (2 Corinthians 5:15)!
- We desire to glorify our Heavenly Father in all that we do (Matthew 5:16; 1 Corinthians 10:31)!
- We desire to honor the Lord with all of our possessions (Proverbs 3:9-10)!
- We desire to serve according to our spiritual gift (1 Corinthians 12:7)!
- We desire for others to receive Jesus as Savior (Proverbs 11:30)!

Now, fully forgiven and forever changed, let us go forth in the joy of our Savior's resurrection!

And all God's people said: *Amen!*

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"Jesus Has Risen! That Changes Everything!"

Based on Various Passages

The Resurrection of our Lord – 2011

April 24 → 7:00 & 10:45

Introduction: He is risen! (*He is risen indeed!*) We have heard the phrase, but have we really thought about the HUGE difference that it makes?

1. **Matthew Chapter 28 NAU (New American Update):** Let's go back to the day of our Lord's resurrection:
 - a. Very early in the morning, just ¹ "as it began to dawn..., Mary Magdalene and the other Mary" came to finish anointing Jesus' dead body. Maybe they hoped the soldiers guarding the tomb would actually have some compassion and help them to enter.
 - b. Then, *some exceedingly awesome things occurred:*
 - i. As the women were coming to the grave the earth shook violently! *But why?* Because a holy angel – *a powerful God-created being* – descended from heaven and rolled away the stone!
 - ii. The rugged Romans soldiers "shook for fear and became like dead men." Even the women were afraid, but the angel said to them: Fear not ⁵ "for I know that you are looking for Jesus who

has been crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.”

c. **Let’s think about Jesus:**

- His Life – ♦free from sin, ♦teaching with authority, and ♦miracle-upon-miracle!
- His suffering – ♦mentally overwhelming, ♦completely unjust, ♦willingly endured, ♦physically excruciating, and ♦spiritually flooded with the sins of the whole world!
- His death – ♦apparently the end, ♦apparently overcome by His enemies, ♦apparently He saved others but could not save Himself, and ♦apparently not almighty in power! BUT:
- His resurrection – ♦proving His death was not the end; ♦proving He is the very Son of God; ♦proving sin, death, and the devil have been defeated; and ♦proving all who receive Him as Savior are saved! The Bible says this about Jesus: ^{NIV} Ephesians 1:22 “God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church²³ which is his body...” The church is ♦not a building ♦or a membership list ♦or what people do on a Sunday morning; instead, *THE CHURCH includes all who know, thus trust in, Jesus as Savior!*

d. **Think about someone you knew who has died:** He or she lived, suffered, and died; now, all that is left are ♦memories, ♦pictures, and ♦a headstone. Is that true OR is there more? Let’s know – *with certainty* – that Jesus’ resurrection changes ♦all things for ♦all people for ♦all time and for ♦all eternity!

2. **Acts Chapter 10 NIV (New International Version):** Let’s go back to today’s first Scripture reading; Peter said:

- a. ³⁹ **“They [the Jewish leaders, Pilate, and the Roman soldiers] killed Jesus, by hanging him on a tree, ⁴⁰ but God raised Jesus from the dead on the third day...”**
- b. ⁴² **“He [Jesus] commanded us [His disciples] to...testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.”** In fact, that day has already been set; the Bible says: ^{NIV} Acts 17:31 “For he 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.” Therefore, ♦the day is set, ♦the proof has been given, and ♦Jesus is coming! Are you ready?
- c. ⁴³ **“All the prophets testify about Jesus, that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”** Believing is more than *mere knowledge* and more than *agreeing with Bible facts*; believing is a God-given relationship with Jesus!

3. **Colossians 3 NAU:** Instruction for Christians: ² **“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.”** *Soon this life will be over*; on that day only one thing will matter – *your relationship with Jesus!* The Bible says: ^{NAU} Romans 8:5 “For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. ⁶ For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace...”