

Sunday March 27th 2016
Resurrection Day

1). Mt 28:1 ¶ *Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. 2 And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. 5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.*

a). The resurrection of our Lord is the most significant event in human history and its significance transcends the mere fact of His being raised from the dead, you see, just as with His birth and His death His resurrection had divine purpose. He was raised from the dead, not just to be alive but to accomplish something truly remarkable for all those who would believe on His name. Look at this – Joh 16:7 ¶ *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.....13 "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 "He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 "All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. 16 ¶ "A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father."*

It is the Lord's resurrection that has made possible the sending of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth as He searches out a Bride for God's Son and because the Lord is raised from the dead and returned to His Father that we have the promise of His coming again.

b). And in connection with His coming again His resurrection has set in motion a specific period of time - Heb 10:12 *But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, 13 from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.*

His resurrection has sealed in certainty the coming of His Kingdom with the overthrow of Satan and Gentile world power.

c). But what is it in His resurrection beyond the sending of the Holy Spirit that is to our 'advantage' within the context of His coming Kingdom? 1Pe 1:3 ¶ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

d). It is because of His resurrection that we have a living hope, an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away reserved for us in heaven and this is enormously advantageous. And then in conjunction with our living hope our Lord's resurrection has brought into being His present ministry on behalf of the eternally saved - Heb 4:14 *Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.*

e). All this considered we should be filled with rejoicing and thanksgiving in celebration of the Lord's resurrection – It has given us the promise of His return, the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, provided access to an incorruptible inheritance and provided for us a Great High Priest.

2). But you know it doesn't end there. Let's return for a moment to the night of the last Supper -

Washing

Joh 13:1 ¶ Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. 2 And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him, 3 **Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God,** 4 **rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself.** 5 **After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.** 6 Then He came to Simon Peter. And Peter said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" 7 Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." 8 Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" **Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me."** 9 Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!" 10 Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." 11 For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean." 12 So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? 13 "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. 14 "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. 16 "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. 17 "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

a). All of that which we see in these verses in John draw from the type seen through the Levitical priests, in the instructions given by the Lord to Moses as we find recorded in - Ex 30:18 "You shall also make a laver of bronze, with its base also of bronze, for washing. You shall put it between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar. And you shall put water in it, 19 "for Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet in water from it. 20 "When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD, they shall wash with water, lest they

die. 21 "So they shall wash their hands and their feet, lest they die. And it shall be a statute forever to them-to him and his descendants throughout their generations."

Power Point – Slides 1-5

b). All of this then speaks to us and is only made possible because of His resurrection - 1Pe 2:9 *But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;*

c). And as we would look at this washing of the hands and feet we will realize that we are not looking at a literal washing for ourselves, but rather a spiritual washing, that which this washing pictures, which we can see in - Eph 5:25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 **that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.***

And this washing of water by the word is a work of the Holy Spirit as He guides us into all truth – that which is only possible because of the Lord's resurrection.

d). And we will remember the instructions Naomi gives to Ruth – Ru 3:1 ¶ *Then Naomi her mother-in-law said to her, "My daughter, shall I not seek rest for you, that it may be well with you? 2 "Now Boaz, whose young women you were with, is he not our relative? In fact, he is winnowing barley tonight at the threshing floor. 3 "Therefore **wash yourself** and anoint yourself, put on your best garment*

e). And if we put these three elements together – the imagery from the tabernacle, the washing of water by the word and the instructions given by Naomi we come to the verses recorded in -1Jo 1:6 *If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 **But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.***

8 ¶ *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.*
9 ***If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*** 10 *If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.*

f). How extraordinary this is! Because of the Lord's resurrection we can receive forgiveness and cleansing for our sins beyond our eternal salvation so that we can have fellowship with Him, not only now but during the time of His Kingdom reign.

g). And all of this takes on such striking significance as we go to the Book of the Revelation to witness the entire 'Church', all the eternally saved of this dispensation, at Christ's Judgment Seat - Re 1:10 *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day, and I heard behind me a loud voice, as of a trumpet, 11 saying, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last," and, "What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches which are in Asia: to Ephesus, to Smyrna, to Pergamos, to Thyatira, to Sardis, to Philadelphia, and to Laodicea."* 12 *Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. **And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands,** 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band.*

Here then is the Heavenly Tabernacle and here is our risen Lord, no longer the High Priest but now seen as the Judge who will give the reward of the inheritance to those who have seen, believed and embraced the purpose for His resurrection having availed themselves of His washing and cleansing, all because He was raised from the dead.

The Cross

3). As we come to Resurrection Day we have a tendency to leave the cross back in Good Friday, but we should realize that the cross, our inheritance and the Lord's resurrection are inseparable - 1Co 1:18 *For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

This now is not the cross of our eternal salvation, but the application of the cross in our pursuit of the Kingdom and as we consider this, as well as things to do with washing, we will realize that this speaks of process, the process of being saved and it is part of the overall process that we are to consistently and continually engage in as we move towards our meeting with our Lord at His Judgment Seat. And there is another facet to this process that takes us beyond the night of the last Supper to the crucifixion – Joh 19:33 *But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. 34 But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately **blood and water** came out.*

a). We will notice that ‘blood’ is first and ‘water’ – and the reference to blood in conjunction with the Lord’s death would inevitably take us to eternal salvation, but there is much more being taught here than the salvation of the spirit – there are things being taught to do with taking up our cross daily and following our Lord. Do we realize that the ‘blood and water’ are meaningless apart from the Lord’s resurrection?

b). 1Co 5:6 *Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 ¶ Therefore **purge out the old leaven**, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed **Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 Therefore let us keep the feast**, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

We are then to remove the leaven of sin from our life and this is accomplished by the ‘blood and water’ as we confess our sins and are cleansed from all unrighteousness – and what has made this possible? The resurrection of our Lord.

c). And we can add to this - Col 2:13 ¶ *And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.*

d). This process of washing is the same idea as keeping our old man firmly attached to the cross, keeping our sin nature in the place of death – something that can only be accomplished by the man of the spirit through the

washing of water by the word because of Christ's resurrection - Ro 6:3 *Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.*

Col 3:5 ¶ *Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.*

e). It is so important that we carry the picture in our mind of our old man crucified with Christ and our spirit man walking in resurrection. But as we have said this is an on-going process that we must consistently continue in. And all of this is reliant upon the washing of water by the word which we are to choose to do – ‘Wash yourself’, which we can do only in the power of His resurrection.

The Lord's Supper

4). And with the Word in view both the written word and our Lord Jesus, within the context of His resurrection, we can return for a moment to the night of the Last Supper - 1Co 11:23 ¶ *For I received from the Lord that which I*

also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

a). In our celebration of what we call the 'Lord's Supper' we proclaim, through participating in it, the Lord's death till He comes. This is not just a proclamation that He died, but what has been accomplished through His death on our behalf. Again this is not restricted to our eternal salvation alone, but must also include our sharing in His death, through our continual death to self, so as to walk in the power of His resurrection. And all of this is about having life in the age to come, about the salvation of our soul - Joh 6:48 *"I am the bread of life. 49 "Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. 50 "This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. 51 "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world." 52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?" 53 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. 54 "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57 "As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. 58 "This is the bread which came down from heaven--not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."*

b). So then, our Lord has provided for us His word to 'eat and drink' to give us life in the age to come – it is the same word that washes us so that we should be holy and without blemish in the day of His Judgment Seat and the same word that empowers us to keep our old man in the place of death, through walking in the Power of His resurrection – an on-going process that is taking us to glory - 2Pe 1:2 *Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all*

things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 5 ¶ But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, 6 to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, 7 to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.....10 Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; 11 for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 12 ¶ For this reason I will not be negligent to remind you always of these things, though you know and are established in the present truth.

And as we become partakers of the 'divine nature' so we have fellowship with Him and we are walking in the light as He is in the light through the power of His resurrection.

Power Point – Slides 6-7