



CELL GUIDE

TOPIC	Resurrection Sunday: What If? (1 Corinthians 15:1-20)	SPEAKER	Pastor Andrew Tan
THEME	Jesus Christ & Him Crucified	DATE	20 & 21 Apr 2019

MESSAGE SUMMARY

WHAT IF....?

In his sermon on Resurrection Sunday, Pastor Andrew shares the Good News of the Gospel through 1 Cor 15:1-20. If Christ had not risen, then we have no message to preach. There is no God to hear our prayers. We are not saved. We are still in our sins. If that is so, then let's bring the missionaries home, close every church and sell the property. Every Christian for the past 2000 years would have been wrong.

In their bid to gather the evidence to prove Christ's resurrection false, Josh McDowell and Frank Morison ended up defending the evidence of an empty tomb instead. *"But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died."* 1 Cor 15:20 This is what makes good Friday, truly Good!

OUTWARD EXPRESSION OF AN INWARD BELIEF

1. Jesus came...

"Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said." 1 Cor 15:4

Jesus came and died for our sins. This Good News is the core message in our Christian faith. From the day we are born, all of us face a death sentence - we cannot escape physical death on earth. As humans, we are never perfect. We fall short of our own standards; how much more God's standards.

Sin is any feeling or thought or speech or action that comes from a heart that does not treasure God over all other person and all other things. If we are drowning in our sins, we cannot save ourselves. Jesus, the sinless and perfect one, came to save us. As we receive Him by faith, we are saved.

2. Jesus has come...

"He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said." 1 Cor 15:4

"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly." Jn 10:10

Jesus was the "life" who died, but was raised back to eternal life three days later. He defeated death

when he rose again. From the testimonies of the eye-witnesses whose lives were changed by what they had seen, the church did not create the resurrection story. Instead, it was the resurrection story that created the church.

By believing in the resurrection, we believe in life after death (1 Cor 15:12). This life on earth is not all that is. If Christ did not raise from the dead, all that we do now is in vain. As such, we know that enjoying life now is not our sole purpose. God is the source of all things and He wants to give us the life that is lived more abundantly.

3. Jesus will come again.

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matt 28:19-20

Jesus died and He rose again. This is the reason why He promised us that He is with us always to the end of the age. As we believe in eternal life, we are filled with hope. We look forward to the day we can stand before God perfect because of Christ and what He has done for us on the cross. This life is not the end. Everything that we do now counts for eternity.

CONCLUSION

God rolled away the stone blocking the entrance to the empty tomb. Jesus did not require this stone to be rolled away for Him to make His exit. The stone was rolled away by God so that we can go in to see for ourselves that the tomb is empty. The way was opened for us to enter to know Him. With Christ's resurrection, we live with hope because our physical death does not mark the end of life. We look forward to eternal life with Christ when He comes again.

QUESTIONS

Sin is “Any **feeling** or **thought** or **speech** or **action** that comes from a heart that does not treasure God over all other things... a heart that prefers anything above God... that does not treasure God over all other persons and all other things.”

List examples of such sin.

2. How does Christ's resurrection affect how you view your life now?

3. What is one change you can make in how you live your life now in order to make it count for eternity?