

Jn. 11:25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life**: he that believeth **in me**, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

For a believer to properly consider this holiday, we simply look to the Lord Jesus as HE is the resurrection and the life. Believers should not put an emphasis on fertility rites, and pagan influences. We should honor and worship the Lord on this most solemn occasion. We can do so by considering this dynamic statement of the Lord, Himself...

“I am the Resurrection and the Life”

I. THE PUZZLING PROMISES, Jn. 11:1-3, 23-24

Jn. 11:1 Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

2 (It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

3 Therefore **his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold, he whom thou lovest is sick.**

- ❖ Mary and Martha knew to call upon Jesus regarding their sick brother.
- ❖ Mary and Martha both knew that Jesus could keep their brother alive.

Jn. 11:21 **Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.**

Jn. 11:32 Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, **Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.**

- ❖ Mary and Martha were expecting that Jesus would provide the remedy but He never arrived.
- ❖ Lazarus died. Several days passed, then Jesus arrived.
- ❖ To Mary and Martha the timing was confusing. Jesus was right on time.
- ❖ Jesus gave hope of the resurrection, Jn. 11:23.
- ❖ Martha knew about the resurrection, but was puzzled regarding the details.

Jn. 11:23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

24 **Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.**

25 Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:**

26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

27 She saith unto him, **Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God,** which should come into the world.

- ❖ Martha was a believer but didn't seem to realize that Jesus could have healed Lazarus from Bethany, less than two miles away, and could raise him from the dead.

II. THE POWER PROCLAIMED “Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection, and the life...**”

❖ The Lord Jesus loved Lazarus, Mary, and Martha, and loves each of us as well.

Jn.11:5 **Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.**

❖ Mary and Martha were faithful believers but unclear about the power of the resurrection.

❖ When Jesus declared “I am the resurrection,” He was declaring God’s power.

Rom. 1:4 And **declared to be the Son of God with power**, according to the spirit of holiness, **by the resurrection from the dead:**

- ❖ The Lord Jesus, as well as the Word of God, declares that the resurrection testifies of God's power to mankind.
- ❖ Death, as well as "the second death", has no power against the first resurrection.

Rev. 20:6 **Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power**, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years.

❖ As Jesus declared that He is “the resurrection, and the life,” the order itself is a picture of salvation – a spiritually dead sinner is quickened by the Holy Spirit, born again, and “resurrected” to new life.

Eph. 2:1 And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; ...

5 Even **when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;)

6 And hath **raised us up together**, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus:

❖ After being born again, a believer has new life:

Phil. 1:21 For to me **to live is Christ**, and to die is gain.

❖ A believer is alive to Christ and dead to the world.

Col. 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For **ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.**

4 When **Christ, who is our life**, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

❖ The believer is a living dead person.

Gal. 2:20 **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live;** yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Rom. 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that **ye present your bodies a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable unto God, ***which is your reasonable service.***

III. THE PERSONAL PROMISE “...he that believeth **in me**, though he were dead, yet shall he live:”

❖ The truth of the resurrection is found in the oldest book of the Bible.

Job 19:25 For **I know that my redeemer liveth**, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:

26 And *though* after my skin *worms* destroy this *body*, yet **in my flesh shall I see God**:

27 Whom **I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold**, and not another; *though* my reins be consumed within me.

- ❖ Jesus declared the promise that anyone who “believeth in me...shall he live:”
- ❖ The promise of eternal life is implied “...though he were dead...”
- ❖ Jesus promised that when a sinner repents and puts faith in Him, eternal life begins, and even if the body dies, the saved sinner is promised, “...yet shall he live:”

Jn. 10:28 And **I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish**, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

Rom, 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but **the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

1 Jn. 2:25 And **this is the promise that he hath promised us, *even* eternal life.**

❖ When believers have clarity about the power and promises of the resurrection, they will understand Paul's testimony to the Galatians:

Gal. 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in **the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.**

Summary

- ❖ Mary and Martha were faithful believers but unclear about the power of the resurrection.
- ❖ The Lord Jesus, as well as the Word of God, declares that the resurrection testifies of God's power to mankind.
- ❖ As Jesus declared that He is “the resurrection, and the life,” the order itself is a picture of salvation – a spiritually dead sinner is quickened by the Holy Spirit, born again, and “resurrected” to new life.
- ❖ Jesus promised that when a sinner repents and puts faith in Him, eternal life begins, and even if the body dies, the saved sinner is promised, “...yet shall he live:”

Conclusion

Phil. 3:7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through **the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:**

10 That I may know him, and **the power of his resurrection,** and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.