

## Six ways the bodily resurrection of Jesus changes our lives now

### 5. The resurrection of Christ gives us power to serve Him

Jesus said that “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). We rightly see the link to his death on the cross for our sin. But does Jesus stop serving us when he dies? No. His resurrection from the dead means that he lives now and *continues* serving us.

He serves us by giving us his resurrection power to serve Him.

Two examples: first, Matthew 28v18-20 when the risen Lord meets his disciples.

<sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

V18 Because of his resurrection Jesus has complete authority – power. v19, the disciples are to serve Him by making more disciples of Christ. But they (and now we) don’t do this in our own power, because v20 He is with us always as we serve Him. He serves us with his resurrection power at work in us as we serve Him.

Second, Ephesians 1v19-21 Paul prays that we would know:

“his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength <sup>20</sup> he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”

V19-20 the resurrection power of Christ is at work *for us* who believe, because v21 the risen Lord Jesus rules with all authority v22 *for the church*, his body.

So, if you want to experience the supernatural resurrection power of Christ at work in you today, come to Him in prayer and ask Him to show you how you can best serve Him today. And the same again tomorrow. And the next day. And the next! Keep on asking the risen Lord Jesus for his power, his strength to keep on serving Him. And you will experience the joy of finding He really is alive, he really does equip you with His power, the power of his resurrection life, to do what humanly speaking you do not have capacity to do.

He will give you power to go on showing grace and forgive that demanding person. He will give you power to pour yourself out in loving your neighbours in practical ways. He will give you power to continue to be patient and kind to the children....

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My brothers and sisters, the risen Lord Jesus will give us his power to serve Him, so don't miss out on experiencing his supernatural life-giving power by simply staying inside your comfort zone!