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## RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

“I sometimes wonder if we’ve heard about some subjects so much that they’ve become “old hat” to us. Could such be the case with the resurrection of Christ? Have we heard about it so much that we do not realize its true meaning today? Perhaps it’s the other way – maybe we haven’t heard *enough* about the Lord’s resurrection, but merely assume that we know more than we do. I want us to take a moment to study the resurrection of Christ and how it permeates the New Testament. Such a study amazes me to see how intertwined Christ’s resurrection is with the New Testament.

**Faith** The bedrock of Christianity is our faith (Heb. 11:6), but faith in what (Jn. 8:24)? Is it sufficient to merely believe in Christ? Must we

believe *something* about Christ? John 8:24 tells us we must believe that Jesus is “I AM” or die in our sins. Paul said He was declared to be the Son of God when He was

resurrected from the dead (Rom. 1:4). Thus, Christ’s resurrection and our faith are connected.

**Confessing Christ** What would you say if I told you I saw John Wayne at the grocery store last week? Would you think I am a liar or a lunatic? (Everyone knows I don’t lie! Ha) Why would my saying I saw John Wayne be so unbelievable? It’s because he died in 1979, of course! Yet, when we confess Christ as the Son of God (Acts 8:37), we’re confessing we believe there was Someone who died, then was buried, but then arose! To confess your faith in Christ is to confess your faith in the resurrection from the dead!

**Baptism** When one is baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), this person has reenacted the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ! Please

read Romans 6:3-7 and notice the connection between baptism and the resurrection of Christ. *“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should **walk in newness of life**. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his **resurrection**: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.”* No doubt, this is part of the reason why Satan has fooled people into thinking that baptism isn’t necessary! After all, if he can get people to reject baptism, then they’re also, in a way, rejecting the resurrection of Christ! Please understand, I’m not saying that denominational people don’t believe in the Lord’s resurrection. I’m saying that they’ve rejected one clear way to prove their faith when they deny the need for baptism after it’s been commanded (Acts 10:48)! **Conclusion**

There are other ways in which

we see emphasis placed upon Christ’s resurrection. This includes the reality of our own resurrection one day. We have confidence in our resurrection because we know Christ resurrected (I Cor. 15:12-20)! The New Testament refers to the event of Christ’s resurrection continually. Do we appreciate it? – Jarrod Jacobs.

In our American culture, there seem to be many measuring sticks to see how “valuable” someone is. Some of these measuring sticks include (but are not limited to) financial income, economic status, social status, physical beauty, political views, how others react to you, etc. Some of these measuring sticks society places on us are so crude, they devalue someone because of their race or ethnicity. No one can control what race they are. All are made in the image of God (Gen. 1:26). Some measuring sticks are so crude as to say someone is not worth much because of the town or city he comes from (Jn. 1:46)! What is the Lord’s measuring stick? Does the Lord judge us by our social status, physical appearance, income level, etc.? I believe as we look to God’s divine word for the

answers, we can grow in the peace that passes understanding. In Luke 9:23, the Lord says, "*If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me.*" We need to put our selfish desires aside and follow after the Lord's example, including His suffering (1 Pet. 2:21-25). The Lord also says, "*If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine, and you will know the truth and the truth will make you free*" (Jn. 8:31-32). In Mark 8:34-35, Jesus stated, "*Behold my mother and my brothers! For whoever does the will of God, he is My brother and sister and mother.*" In Matthew 18:3-4, the Lord says, "*Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.* Are we noticing a pattern? Even from this small sample of Scripture, we see the Lord is concerned with something different than what enthralls our American culture. Jesus is concerned with our obedience and our spiritual well-being. He is concerned with our spiritual well-being to the degree that He said if seek God's kingdom and

righteousness first, then all our physical needs will be met (Matt. 6:33). God will take care of us. What is the Lord's measuring stick? The Lord's measuring stick is His word. We could even say that Jesus' measuring stick is Himself because we are to be "*conformed to the image of His Son*" (Rom. 8:29). We are to walk as He walked (1 Jn. 2:6). Earlier I mentioned that knowing this will help us grow in peace that passes understanding. How is this possible? As a Christian, God is not going to judge us based on our economic status, our income level, our race or ethnicity, our hometown, etc. God will judge us on how we kept His word (2 Cor. 5:10). God will judge us based on if we were obedient to Him or disobedient and unbelieving (Jn. 5:27-29). This should bring us peace. We are judged based upon what we have done, and not based upon the things we cannot control! The Lord's measuring stick is refined, narrow, objective, and razor-sharp. It's not all over the place and swayed by the opinions of fallible men and women. It is concrete, unwavering, and it leads to salvation and an eternal inheritance (Rom. 8:17).  
— Jordon Lawson

# FIFTH SUNDAY PHOTOS

Every fifth Sunday of the month, we try to highlight some of great things happening around our congregation that were captured through photography. If you happen to get a good picture of one of those great things, please feel free to post it on our Facebook page, tag us on Instagram (@wellsburgchurch), tweet us at @wellsburgchurch, or e-mail us at minister@wellsburgchurchofchrist.com with a little description of what is happening in the picture.



The Ruegg family had their in-home bible study in place of the cancelled assembly Wednesday night. We miss being with you all!



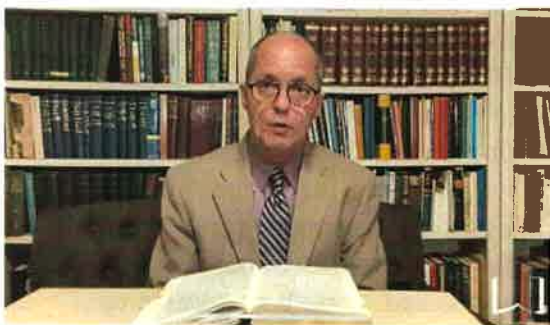
282 ~ No, Not One



Kent Parks puts his song-leading talents to great use in leading families in worship at home online who have been quarantined due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Thank you, Kent, for lifting us up in song!



Several of the ladies have been getting together to create welcoming and creative collages in the back of the building. We are so thankful for your work in making the building feel so warm and inviting as we enter inside!



Luther Pratt participated in the selfie service Nathan Marshall put together while we were still social distancing. Luther gave a wonderful talk for the Lord's Supper and led us in remembering our Lord's death, burial and resurrection.