

SERMON: RESURRECTION POWER AND AUTHORITY

SCRIPTURE: I Corinthians 15:12-22

Introduction: The resurrection is inseparably connected with man's salvation. The "believing that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead in our heart" is a part of man's confession for salvation. (Romans 10:9) Without the resurrection our faith is van and we are yet in our sins.

1. RESURRECTION IS BASIS FOR AUTHORITY

- a. Aaron's authority was established in the fact that his rod budded, therefore, providing by a supernatural power that life was in the rod by the resurrection of God (Numbers 17:1-11)
- b. God's anointing was thereby confirmed through the resurrection power.
- c. God's resurrection power in us is the proof of the new life.

2. RESURRECTION GIVES GLORY ONLY TO GOD

- a. Man may exhibit many natural abilities and thereby be honored but when God's resurrection power in us produces the risen life, only God can be glorified.
- b. It is the power of the resurrection of Christ within us that gives us victory over sin. We indeed have this "treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us" (II Corinthians 4:7)

3. RESURRECTION IS VICTORY OVER "LAST ENEMY"

- a. Paul said, "The last enemy is death" (I Corinthians 15:26) This enemy is defeated by the resurrection of Jesus who became the first fruits of the dead (verse 23)
- b. The corruptible must put on incorruption and the dishonorable body must be raised a spiritual body. This is the power of the resurrection.

Conclusion: The power and authority of the Gospel rest from the truth of the resurrection. If there is no budding of the rod, there is death and not life.