SPRING QUARTER SUNDAY SCHOOL 2015

THEME: THE PRESENCE, POWER AND PROPERTIES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

UNIT II – HIS POWER

“PAUL’S PRESENTATION OF CHRIST’S RESURRECTION”

Required Reading: I Corinthians 15:1-22
Motto Text: I Corinthians 15:14, “And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.”
I Corinthians 15:22, “For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

Reliable Resources: Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator; Precepts for Living (UMI); Word-Search 10 Electronic Library System; MacArthur Study Bible; Spiritual Warfare by Dr. David Jeremiah; The Outline Bible by H. L. Willmington; Barnes Notes on the New Testament

Introduction
Beloved, the hour has returned in our society when the world again gets to consider the sacrificial work of our Lord Jesus Christ. People can examine yet one more time the timeless truth of the Lord Jesus Christ and how He came to earth and was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life and was crucified, died and rose again from the grave the third day for as many as would receive Him. Beloved, this is the greatest story ever lived and communicated to the human race.

Note this quarter from Union Gospel Press Expositor and Illuminator: “Factual reality is essential to the conduct of our daily lives. To question the factual reality of whatever is clearly real seems absurd.” Truly the offerings of the Bible stand head and shoulders above the fickle, fictitious fables of men! When one considers the Gospel accounts of Jesus and His resurrection, note some of these eyewitness accounts as Jesus Christ was seen after His resurrection by:
1. Mary Magdalene. Jn. 20:14-18; Mk. 16:9
2. The women returning from the tomb. Matt. 28:8-10
3. Peter later in the day. Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5
4. The disciples going to Emmaus in the evening. Lk. 24:13-31
5. The Apostles (except Thomas). Lk. 24:36-45
6. The Apostles a week later (Thomas present). Jn. 20:19-24
7. In Galilee to the seven by the Sea of Tiberias. Jn. 21:1-23
8. In Galilee on a mountain to the Apostles and 500 believers. I Cor. 15:6
9. At Jerusalem and Bethany again to James. I Cor. 15:7
10. At Olivet and the ascension. Acts 1:3-12.” Thus the Apostle Paul writes and gives his account for the Corinthians and all others who may have any doubts whatsoever of the bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ and its utmost importance to us all. And let us not forget that Paul met Jesus post-resurrection on the road to the city of Damascus. Acts 9:3-6

**Anticipated Power Points:**
- Christ’s Resurrection’s Preeminence. I Corinthians 15:1-4
- Christ’s Resurrection Pictured. I Corinthians 15:5-11
- Christ’s Resurrection’s Promises. I Corinthians 15:20-22

**“PAUL’S PRESENTATION OF CHRIST’S RESURRECTION”**

**LESSON OUTLINE**

I. **Christ’s Resurrection’s Preeminence. I Corinthians 15:1-4**
Wiersbe declares: “It is important to note that the believers at Corinth did believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ; so Paul started his argument with that fundamental truth.”

A. **The ground of their salvation. vss. 1-2**
   “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.”

B. **Their foundation stood on Old Testament scriptures. vss. 3-4**
   1. His substitutionary death as the Passover Lamb. Exodus 12.
   2. His suffering in death highlighted in Isaiah 53.
   3. His death and resurrection in three (3) days as noted in Jonah’s account.

II. **Christ’s Resurrection Pictured. I Corinthians 15:5-11**
As I mentioned in the introduction, Christ’s resurrection was pictured in the eyes of many witnesses and verified by the scriptures. Wiersbe notes: “On the Cross, Jesus was exposed to the eyes of unbelievers, but after the Resurrection, He was seen by believers who could be witnesses of His resurrection (Acts 1:22; 2:32; 3:15; 5:32). Again let us note the Apostle Paul’s exposition in verses 5-8.

Note in verses 9-11, Paul pictured himself as one who was ripped from the cords of damnation by the grace of Jesus Christ and given a great opportunity to represent Him. If anyone knew what amazing grace was, it was Paul who was truly an eyewitness of the resurrected Christ. (Read more about Paul’s salvation and calling that kept him in a humble state in Acts 22:6-21).

III. **Christ’s Resurrection’s Promises. I Corinthians 15:20-22**
Paul sets before the Church the facts that Christ’s Resurrection promises eternal life through the Last Adam and eternal death through the First Adam. Why? (vss. 21-22). Because verse 20 makes it crystal clear. The Living Bible reads in verse 20, “But the fact is that Christ did actually rise from the dead and has become the first of millions who will come back to life again someday.” Beloved, not only come back to life, but will rule and reign with all authority over everything throughout the universe.

Beloved, on this celebration of Christ’s resurrection, are you trusting Jesus the Second Adam, or living according to the will and wisdom of the First Adam? As for me and my house, I’ll say as Joshua, “We will serve the Lord.”

**CLOSING**
“I serve a risen Saviour, He’s in the world today. I know that He is living, whatever men may say. I’ve seen His hand of mercy, I’ve heard His voice of cheer. And just the time I need Him, He’s always near. **HE LIVES!!!**”

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Looking Ahead: April 12, 2015 I John 3:11-24

You are invited to attend Noon Bible Study every Wednesday as Pastor Davis teaches the lesson at Bibleway.