

## I. Hearing Versus Experiential Knowledge

- A. Almost everyone has heard of and considered the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. Countless millions, having heard, choose to believe upon Jesus and His resurrection. Belief ushers them into the reality of being legally saved through their believing in Jesus and His sacrificial work on their behalf through faith.
- B. Paul has established the legal process of salvation through Jesus unto relationship with Him and coming into the new covenant with God in every city. Decades later he writes to the churches full of believers who have been in the church for years and exhorts them to go beyond hearing and believing in the resurrection into the reality of experiencing and knowing the power of it. (Rom. 1:6; Phil. 3:10)
  - 1. The Question - Have you moved beyond hearing and believing in the resurrection into the reality of knowing the power of it? If so, what is the depths of that power and how much more is there to know?
- C. Knowing - The biblical understanding of “knowing” implies two dynamics: understanding, and experiencing. Just attaining one of these dynamics falls short of “knowing”. (John 17:3, Eph 1:18-19, 3:19)
  - 1. Understanding - Gaining knowledge in the depths of the resurrection of Jesus in its practical, spiritual, and future implications. The biblical expression of this is called renewing your mind in the truth.
  - 2. Experiencing - Being transformed by the power of the life of Jesus in an ever-increasing reality. This is biblically described as receiving life (power, grace, and strength) through His Holy Spirit. (John 14:17)

## II. Salvation Accomplished Through Death and Resurrection

- A. Our inherent sinful state that causes death and separates man from God has a two-fold grip upon our soul: sinful actions and sinful nature. The finished work of Jesus’s substitutionary work required death to primarily deal with our sinful actions and resurrection to primarily deal with our sinful nature.
  - 1. Through His Death - We have penalty and wages paid, justification, redemption, bought, sinful actions washed.
  - 2. Through His Resurrection - We have regeneration, sanctification, new creation, new heart, abundant life, chains or bondages broken.

### **III. Four Primary Realities of Knowing the Power of His Resurrection**

- A. Mystical Union unto Perfect Oneness - The desire of Jesus in the salvation of humanity goes far beyond penal substitution and securing our eternal life and into the realm of empowering us to become like Him to the point that there is oneness of heart, soul, and body. (John 15-17)
1. Confidence in Justification - When Jesus was resurrected from the dead, it was the Father's declaration of His acceptance and approval of His Son's work of redemption. Once He had paid the penalty for our sins, He no longer had any need to remain dead. There was no more penalty, wrath, guilt, shame, or condemnation left to bear. (Acts. 2:23-24, Rom. 4:23-25, Heb 10:14, 1 Pet. 1:20-21)
  2. Regeneration - Through His resurrection we are given a new heart or nature. The empowerment of regeneration causes us to despise sin and desire righteousness. We truly become a new creation with a new nature, with real power over sin moving in growing realities of freedom and victory over sin and death's tyrannical reign. (John 3:1-21, 2 Cor. 5:17, Gal 6:15)
  3. Sanctification - Not only are we set free from sin through regeneration but we are also empowered to grow in righteousness and holiness. We are freely given life and godliness on the inside that manifests on the outside. Rather than "behaving ourselves" we can actually think like Jesus thinks and love like He loves. (John 10:10, John 11:25, 1 Cor. 15:45, Eph. 2:1-10)
  4. Physical Resurrection - The final reality that results in knowing the power of His resurrection is our own physical resurrection from the dead. The bible constantly ties our physical resurrection to the likeness of His. He has a glorified physical body and because of His mercy and goodness we too will have our physical body resurrected and glorified just as His was. (1 Cor. 15:12-58, 2 Cor. 4:14, Col. 3:1-4, 1 Pet. 1:3)