

WEEK: 6

TOPIC: THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS

1.The crucifixion and burial of Jesus Matt. 27: 32-66; Luke. 23: 26-56

2.Jesus rose from the dead after three days Matt. 28: 1-10; Mark 16: 1-14; Lk. 24: 1-35

3.The importance of the resurrection of Jesus to the Christian faith 1 cor. 15: 3-8, 12- 20

The soldiers took Jesus away and put a purple cloth on Him. They tortured Him by putting a crown of thorns on his head. They mocked Him by saluting Him: "Hail King of the Jews". They beat Him and spat upon Him. After maltreating Him, they took away the purple cloth and led Him away to be crucified. On the way they met Simon of Cyrene who was forced to help Jesus carry the heavy cross. Simon helped Him, till they came to Golgotha, the place of crucifixion.

At Golgotha, the soldiers gave Jesus wine mixed with gall (a concoction) to drink. But when He tested it, He didn't like it and so He refused to drink it. The concoction was meant to reduce the pain that He might suffer after He had been nailed to the cross.

The soldiers crucified Jesus by laying Him on the cross and hammering nails into his hands and feet. Jesus suffered as the nails pierced his flesh. They then shared his sleeveless garment among them by casting lot. Then on the top of the cross they put the charge for which Jesus was crucified: "This is Jesus the King of the Jews."

Two robbers were crucified with Jesus, one on his right side and the other on his left. The crowd mocked Him to save Himself from the cross, if He was the Christ. The Chief Priests also mocked Jesus as He hung on the cross saying He saved others but could not save Himself. One of the two robbers also said bad things about Jesus.

THE SEVEN WORDS OF JESUS ON THE CROSS

Woman, behold, your son, Son, behold your mother.

Father forgive them, for they know not what they do.

Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise

I thirst.

Elo-i, Elo-i, lama sabachtani: which means My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me.

It is finished

Father into thy hands I commit my spirit.

JESUS ROSE FROM THE DEATH AFTER THREE DAYS. MATT. 28: 1-10; MK. 16: 1-14; LUKE 24: 1-35

To resurrect means to come back to life after death. Jesus' power over death was confirmed by His

resurrection. The four gospel writers – Matthew, Mark and Luke gave the accounts of Jesus' resurrection.

The Account of Resurrection in Matthew (Matthew 28: 1-8)

The resurrection story of Jesus Christ in St. Matthew's gospel holds that early in the morning, on the day after the Sabbath (Sunday), Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James went to the tomb. There was a great earthquake, because an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, rolled away the stone, and sat upon it. The appearance of the angel was lightning and his raiment as white as snow. This created great fear in the guards.

The angel said to the women 'Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He has risen as He said.' The angel further invited the women to come and see where He was laid. The angel finally directed the women to go quickly and tell His disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead, and to further inform them that Jesus was going before them to Galilee where they would see Him.

Mark's Account of the Resurrection (Mark 16: 1-8)

After the Sabbath following the day Jesus was crucified, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Salome brought spices in order that they might anoint Jesus in tomb. They went to the tomb during the sunset, on Sunday morning, the first day of the week. They wondered who would help them roll away the stone covering the tomb of Jesus. On arrival, they found that the large stone had been rolled away.

On getting to the tomb, the women were amazed to see a young man dressed in a white cloth, sitting on the right side of the tomb. He told them that Jesus was not there but risen. The angel also showed them where Jesus was laid and directed them to go and inform His disciples and Peter that they would see Jesus in Galilee, as He had earlier told them.

Luke's Account of the Resurrection (Luke 24: 1-11)

On the first day of the week, the woman who followed Jesus from Galilee took the spices which they had prepared and went to the tomb of Jesus in order to anoint His body. However, on getting to the tomb, they found the stone rolled away and nothing in the tomb.

While the women were afraid by what they saw, two men stood in dazzling apparel. As the women were frightened, and bowed their faces to the ground, the spoke to them saying, 'Why do you seek the living among the dead?' The men reminded them of the Jesus' earlier revelation about His crucifixion and resurrection. The women remembered His words, and as they came back, they told what had happened to the eleven apostles and to the others. The women who went to the tomb and brought the news

of the resurrection were Mary Magdalene, Joana, Mary the mother of James and others. The apostles received the news of resurrection of Jesus , as presented by the women, with doubt.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS TO THE CHRISTIAN FAITH. 1 COR. 15: 3-8, 12-20.

1. Christ resurrection is the basis of Christian faith. If there was no resurrection, there would not be any Christianity.
2. The resurrection of Christ teaches christians that there is life after death.
3. The resurrection shows Jesus as the Saviour of the world.
4. Jesus' resurrection made the disciples to be courageous and bold in the spreading of the gospel.
5. It provides hope for christians about eternal life - a hope that the Lord we are serving is alive.

SIGNIFICANCE OF RESURRECTION TO THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

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