

## **THE RESURRECTED LIFE – AVAILABLE FOR ALL**

**Read: The First Easter (by Peter Marshall) . Page 141 (Implicit in the whole ...) to page 143 (But they could not ...)**

The Bible teaches us that being a Christian is a ‘Walk (or life) of Faith’. For many that walk is made difficult because we have an incomplete picture or understanding of Jesus’ ‘in His present form’.

For some the picture is of a prophet/teacher type person, a male form of Mother Theresa if you will; walking the streets doing good, healing the sick and occasionally raising the dead. For some they picture this bleeding body nailed to a cross with a crown of thorns on His head... *based on the examples of the Crucifix that they have seen in churches, on necklaces, and especially at this time of Easter.*

**As amazing as Jesus’ life was on earth; we cannot limit our understanding or arrest our belief to the BEFORE side of the cross.**

Jesus is ALIVE- He is a RISEN!

### **JOHN 20:1-2**

**Now the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”**

### **JOHN 20:11-16; 18-20; 24-29**

The life of Jesus didn’t stop at his crucifixion. For those who follow Jesus, His dying on the Cross was the door-way to a whole new way of life. Christianity isn’t simply based on Jesus’ death ... but on His Resurrection as well.

Jesus is the living breathing testament of:

### **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**

**If anyone belongs to Christ, there is a new creation. The old things have gone; everything is made new!**

I believe Jesus went to huge lengths to show himself to the disciples after He was resurrected because ...

## **HE WANTED THEM TO SEE HIM AS HE IS ... ALIVE, FULLY WHOLE, FULL OF POWER, HELD BY NOTHING EVEN DEATH.**

CHRISTIANITY is living a life that has been made fully whole and filled with Hope and Life by the One who is Fully Whole, who is Living Hope, and who has All Power!!

**(Jehovah Shalom – He is my Peace - nothing missing, nothing broken.)**

Christian: Today, it is very important that we hear and understand that Jesus is alive and real because we need to be **BOLD in this TRUTH**, we need to be **EXCITED about this Truth...** because the whole world needs to hear and know and understand that Jesus is exactly who He said He was **AND HE STILL IS!**

People who say that they are Followers of Jesus but don't live in this God-given 'Resurrected Life', who don't live in the knowledge and understanding that Jesus is **ALIVE, FULLY WHOLE, FULL OF POWER** will depict Jesus as an old fashioned Bible Character instead of the Living Son of God.

**These ones tend to become 'Curators of Museums' instead of 'Builders of the Kingdom'.**

Today, celebrate the RISEN SAVIOUR and LORD, Jesus Christ the King of Heaven!

It is so important for us, who declare that we are 'Followers of Jesus' that we live in this truth, because I believe that Religion will become more and more despised.

**What is religion? It is 'form without power'.**

The world has seen *form without power* everywhere and it is becoming more and more apparent in everything that we have traditionally put our trust in: finance firms, banks, governments, churches, people, all will at some stage let us down.

People are looking for answers to their deepest longings, looking for life with hope, looking for purpose; looking for the one thing that will fill that vacuum inside. Knowledge won't, nothing earthly will ... only God can.

**Unless we are examples of that, unless we are prepared to speak it out, unless we are prepared to live and demonstrate that... how will those who don't know Jesus ever know?**

The Disciples realised this and became the greatest World Changers ever.

People throughout the ages have always looked for ‘signs’ to prove or convince them of the Truth.

Solomon is recorded as saying that there is nothing new under the sun and this is true. People today are looking for some sort of sign to convince them that Jesus is true.

### **LUKE 11:29-30, 33**

**As the crowd pressed in on Jesus, he said, “These are evil times, and this evil generation keeps asking me to show them a miraculous sign. But the only sign I will give them is the sign of the prophet Jonah. What happened to him was a sign to the people of Nineveh that God had sent him. What happens to me will be a sign that God has sent me, the Son of Man, to these people.**

**“No one lights a lamp and then hides it or puts it under a basket. Instead, it is put on a lamp-stand to give light to all who enter the room.**

We are called to be that Light on a Lamp stand with the Good News of the One who is greater than Jonah and greater than Solomon. And His words are relevant for today!

### **LUKE 21:25-26, 33(NLT)**

**“And there will be strange events in the skies—signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And down here on earth the nations will be in turmoil, perplexed by the roaring seas and strange tides. The courage of many people will falter because of the fearful fate they see coming upon the earth, because the stability of the very heavens will be broken up. Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will remain forever.**

Jesus’ words will by no means pass away!

If you are looking for something that is real, something that has lasted the test of time, something more solid than anything offered by the world ... JESUS IS THE ANSWER!!

### **JOHN 14:6**

**Jesus said to him, “I am the WAY the TRUTH and the LIFE. No one comes to the Father except through me.”**

**If you feel like you’re lost today ... JESUS CAN SHOW YOU THE WAY  
If you want answers ... JESUS WILL ONLY TELL YOU THE TRUTH  
If you are feeling dead inside ... JESUS CAN CAUSE YOU TO COME ALIVE**

### **JOHN 1:4**

**“In Him was life, and the life was the light of men”**

**DON'T STOP AT THE CROSS TODAY ...**  
**BUT CROSS OVER INTO RESURRECTION LIFE**

**Read: The First Easter (by Peter Marshall) . Page 144 (So they tried everything ...) to page 145 (as He had promised ...) to page 146 (This is the fact we ... wistful escapes from life) to page 147 (And you too, may have ...) to page 151 (That is the message of Easter!)**