

“THE RISEN CHRIST”

Selected Scriptures

Good morning. You’ve come to church on the greatest Sunday of the year and I’m glad you’re here. Christians the world over are gathering in their churches to worship the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ.

Pastors will stand today and say, “Christ is risen.”
Believers will respond in unison, “He is risen
indeed.”

The fact that He conquered Satan, sin, and death is the best news that this world has ever received.

W.E. Sangster was a famous British preacher. In the mid 1950’s he began to lose his voice and his mobility due to progressive muscular atrophy. So he threw himself into writing and praying. Eventually his voice completely failed, and he could no longer walk. On an Easter morning

April 20, 2025
CFBC... *Easter 2025*

shortly before he died, he took his pen and shakily wrote a note to his daughter...

It is terrible to wake up on Easter morning and have no voice to shout, "He is risen!" But it would be still more terrible to have a voice and not want to shout.

I pray that you and all who are joining us by livestream will capture the joy, the excitement, and the thrill that saturated the disciples of Jesus when they examined the empty tomb and saw Him up close and personal. They understood the significance of the resurrection of Jesus. Do you?

Here's the Easter truth I want you to tuck away in your heart...

THE RISEN JESUS IS LORD!

When Jesus rose from the dead, He was seen by at least 552 people in thirteen different places

April 20, 2025
CFBC... *Easter 2025*

over a period of forty days.” (Mark Cahill, *One Heartbeat Away: Your Journey Into Eternity*, p. 163)

I could preach for hours and still not exhaust the impact of this statement...

Romans 10:9... that if you confess with your mouth Jesus *as* Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

“Jesus is Lord!” This was the confession of the believers in the first century church when they were baptized and when many of them were martyred for their faith. “LORD” refers to the deity and to the sovereign power and authority of Jesus. In the New Testament the word "Lord" appears about 700 times. This confession of lordship is tied to the resurrection of Christ.

Romans 1:1–4... Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, **2** which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, **3** concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David

April 20, 2025
CFBC... Easter 2025

according to the flesh, **4** who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord....

Romans 14:9... For to this end Christ died and lived again, that He might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

This New Testament truth is irrevocable—*the risen Christ is the risen Lord*. The resurrection of Jesus is a cornerstone truth of the gospel (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). The implications of this truth are flat out amazing. Here's the first one...

1. THE SALVATION HE PROVIDES

Our world is filled with people who are searching for meaning and satisfaction in all kinds of ways. I can stand with boldness and confidence to declare that Jesus is Lord and that He alone can fill the emptiness in our hearts. He alone can give us the kind of life we've always wanted.

John 10:9–10... “I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. **10** “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.”

Our greatest problem is sin. Until that issue is dealt with, we will never find the satisfaction and meaning in life that we long for. Here’s how Paul put it...

Romans 3:23... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23... For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus is Lord! That powerful confession simply means that He and He alone can forgive our sins because He and He alone suffered and died for them on the cross. The fact that God the Father raised Him from the dead proves that He accepted His Son’s sacrifice on our behalf and that

April 20, 2025
CFBC... Easter 2025

He will justify anyone who puts their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 4:25... *He* who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification.

THE RISEN JESUS IS LORD!

2. THE DEVOTION HE REQUIRES

"Lord" (kurios) was the word the Greek Old Testament used to translate God's personal name, Yahweh (Jehovah). The confession a true believer must make is this—***Jesus is God and I live to please Him!***

Primarily it means that Jesus' authority is unlimited and universal. Those who come to Him by faith acknowledge that they have placed themselves entirely and without reserve under

his authority to carry out without hesitation whatever he may choose for them to do.¹

Here's the rub. We live in a world that is always trying to squeeze us into its mold. The conflict between the kingdom of the Lord Jesus and the kingdom of this world is fierce. To declare that Jesus is your Lord means that everything that seeks to usurp our love for Him and our loyalty to Him must be rooted out of our lives. He must have first priority!

Outward confession that Jesus is Lord stems from a profound inward conviction that Jesus rose from the dead.

How could anyone question the relevance of our Lord's resurrection from the dead and of His absolute claim to Lordship? We've already seen

¹ Robert H. Mounce, *Romans*, vol. 27, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995), 209.

the salvation He provides and the devotion He requires. Here's a third implication...

3. THE KINGDOM HE GOVERNS

Confession is dependent on what we believe. Based on what we've already learned, we believe that...

- **The risen Jesus is Lord.**
- **The risen Jesus saves.**
- **The risen Jesus deserves our devotion.**

We've got to understand that the resurrection and the Lordship of Jesus has *COSMIC* implications. Paul Beasley-Murray wrote...

Jesus is Lord may have been a personal confession of faith, but in no way could that confession be limited to the life of an individual believer. In confessing Jesus as Lord the early Christians were not in the first place declaring that Jesus was 'Lord of my life'; they were declaring that Jesus was 'Lord of the world'....The rule of the

risen Christ cannot be restricted to the church. He who is Lord of the church is also Lord of the world. The Message of the Resurrection (The Bible Speaks Today), p. 223.

Paul attested to this reality when he wrote his letter to the church in Philippi...

Philippians 2:9–11... For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, **10** so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John received a vision of heaven. I want you to hear a description of the one of the scenes he observed...

Revelation 5:11–14... Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, **12** saying with a loud

voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing." **13** And every created thing which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all things in them, I heard saying, "To Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, *be* blessing and honor and glory and dominion forever and ever." **14** And the four living creatures kept saying, "Amen." And the elders fell down and worshiped.

To the risen and exalted Jesus universal submission is offered. The writer of Hebrews stated...

Hebrews 2:8... YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET." For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

When the risen and reigning Jesus returns, His eternal kingdom will be consummated. Every person will bow their knee to Him and every

April 20, 2025
CFBC... *Easter 2025*

tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father!

CONCLUSION

Here's our truth for the greatest day in human history...

THE RISEN JESUS IS LORD!

The implications of this fact are enormous. They include...

1. The Salvation He Provides

Have you received Jesus as your Savior and Lord?
Have you confessed Him publicly through believer's baptism?

2. The Devotion He Requires

As you survey your life and your priorities, is Jesus getting your best? Are you consistently living out Luke 9:23? Are you seeking first His kingdom and His righteousness?

3. The Kingdom He Governs

Colossians 3:1–4... Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2** Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. **3** For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4** When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Are you seeking the things above where the risen Jesus is seated at the right hand of God the Father? Do you look forward to going to heaven and fullness of joy in His presence along with a endless array of heavenly pleasures?