

Resurrection and Life

Scripture: John 11:20-27

John 11:20-27 KJV Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat still in the house. 21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died. 22 But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give it thee. 23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. 24 Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. 25 Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? 27 She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

Introduction

In talking to Martha before going to Lazarus' grave, Jesus shared two great truths with her. He said He was life ... his life was capable of sustaining her through the brightest and darkest experiences of life. And he said he was the resurrection ... He had the power to bring life even to the dead.

I. I am the Life

John 10:10 KJV The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- A. Jesus came to give an abundant
- B. An abundant life is yours by following His life directives
- C. The Bible is the design manual for humanity

II. I am the Resurrection

John 11:25b KJV Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

- A. Jesus gives resurrection power
 - Romans 8:11 KJV** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.
- B. Jesus promised to raise us from the dead
 - John 6:40 KJV** And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

III. The way to life and resurrection

John 14:6 KJV Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

- A. Jesus is the way to life
- B. Jesus will give you an abundant life
 - 1. By removing the consequences of sin
 - 2. By removing guilt and shame
 - 3. By healing the infirm
 - 4. By giving life a new direction
- C. He has a wonderful plan for your life

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Conclusion

Becky sent this reading to me. It was a favorite reading of Aunt Frankie's:

Footprints

One night I dreamed a dream. As I was walking along the beach with my Lord. Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life. For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand, One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand. I noticed that at many times along the path of my life, especially at the very lowest and saddest times, there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said once I decided to follow you, You'd walk with me all the way. But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life, there was only one set of footprints. I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you ... Never, ever, during your trials and testings. When you saw only one set of footprints, It was then that I carried you."

Over the last several months, there was only one set of footprints in the sand. Jesus was carrying Aunt Frankie, and He has carried her to her eternal home.