

RECLAIMING EASTER

THE RELEVANCE OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

From Chapter 17 of
The Unshakable TRUTH
By
Josh & Sean McDowell

Outline / Transcript



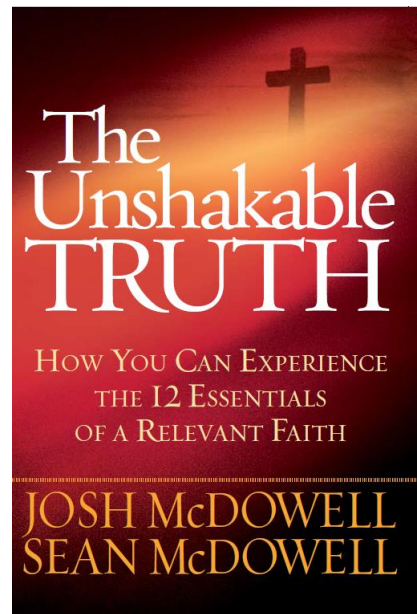
Legend:

MTAC: More Than A Carpenter

E4R: Evidence for the Resurrection

[Ppt128]: PowerPoint Slide #128

TS¶#43: Paragraph #43 in Sermon Transcripts



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THE RELEVANCE OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

INTRODUCTION: WHY DO WE FEAR DEATH?

TS¶1-15

- ◆ Death is mysterious and unknown.
- ◆ We have to face death alone.
- ◆ We are separated from our loved ones.
- ◆ Our personal hopes and dreams will not be realized.
- ◆ Death is unavoidable.

I. FREEDOM FROM FEAR BECAUSE DEATH HAS BEEN CONQUERED

TS¶16-20

A. CHRIST'S RESURRECTION ASSURES US THAT WE WILL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.

1. John 11:25-26; 1 Timothy 1:10
2. Christ's resurrection is directly linked to our eternal life.
1 Corinthians 15:22-23 [ppt.1983]

B. ETERNAL LIFE IN A NEW BODY.

1. Romans 8:23-24
2. We will spend eternity in a resurrected, physical body.

C. Glorified bodies.

1. 1 Corinthians 15:35, 42-44, 48
2. Bodies that won't suffer pain, endure hardships, or wear out.
3. Our bodies will be transformed – 1 Corinthians 15:53

D. Our "priceless inheritance"

1. 1 Peter 1:3-4

2. We will exist forever in a state of perfection – Revelation 21:4
No death, sorrow, crying or pain.
3. All of this has been made possible because of Christ’s Resurrection.

II. THE TIMING OF OUR RESURRECTION

TS¶21-27

A. JESUS PROMISED TO BRING US INTO OUR INHERITANCE –
John 14:2-3 (p156)

B. CHRIST’S RESURRECTION IS THE “FIRST FRUITS”

1. 1 Corinthians 15:20; 23
2. His Resurrection preceded ours and ours will be just like His.

C. THERE IS AN ORDER/TIMING TO OUR RESURRECTION

1. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
2. Christ was first, then the dead in Christ, then those Christians who are still alive.

D. THE INTERMEDIATE STATE?

1. “Soul sleep”
 - a. An unconscious existence for the soul until the resurrection of the body
 - b. Possible references: 1 Thessalonians 4:14; 5:10; Matt 9:24; John 11:11
 - c. Most evangelicals reject this theory
“Fallen asleep” phrases are references to the physical body
2. “Intermediate state”
 - a. Transitional existence after death.
 - b. The body is “sleeping” while the soul carries on a conscious existence.
 - c. The thief on the cross (Luke 23:43)
“Today” you will be with Me in paradise

- d. Absence from the body, present with the Lord – 2 Corinthians 5:8

III. BECAUSE HE LIVES

TS¶28-38

A. SUMMARY OF THE BENEFITS RECEIVED BECAUSE OF CHRIST’S RESURRECTION

1. The mystery of death is revealed.
2. We don’t have to face death alone.
3. We are not permanently separated from our loved ones.
4. Our personal hopes and dreams have a future.
5. Death is unavoidable, yet is a transition to eternal life.

B. “A TASTE”

1. 1 Corinthians 2:7, 9-10
2. We can experience a taste of our future inheritance in the present
3. We can sense the joy of what eternity will be like

IV. EXAMPLES OF LIVING OUT THE TRUTH OF OUR FUTURE RESURRECTION

TS¶39

A. ETERNITY MINDED

1. Colossians 3:1-2
2. Since we have a taste of eternity, our thoughts should be directed towards it.
3. What about all of our earthly concerns?
4. Matthew 6:19-21, 25, 31-33
 - a. Our priorities (“treasures”) are where our hearts and thoughts are.
5. We must make the Kingdom our primary concern.

B. A LOVE AFFAIR

1. Similar to how a man's affections, thoughts and priorities are constantly focused on his spouse, us it should be with us and God.
2. James 4:4-5; Matthew 6:24
3. God is jealous for our loyalty and our attention.

C. BEING ETERNITY MINDED IS AN ISSUE OF WHERE WE PLACE OUR PRIORITIES.

1. A contrast – Philippians 3:19
Those who only think about life here on earth
2. “Citizens of heaven” – Philippians 3:20-21
 - a. This is where our true citizenship is.
 - b. While we live in this world, our focus should be a godly focus.

D. WE LIVE OUT THESE PRIORITIES WHILE WE ARE IN THIS WORLD.

1. John 17:15-17
2. We are not to be disengaged from the world.
3. We are to be about Kingdom business while we live our lives in this world.
4. C.S. Lewis quote.

CONCLUSION: KEEPING OUR EYES FIXED ON JESUS

- ◆ Hebrews 12:1-2: We must have a faith that fixes our spiritual eyes on Jesus.
- ◆ Psalm 42:1-2; Psalm 63:1: Like David, let us thirst, long, and yearn for Him.
- ◆ The more time we spend actively cultivating our focus on Him, the

TS¶59-71

TS¶60

more this temporal life takes on an eternal perspective.

TS¶67-68

Spend time with His word. Meditate on Him. Let Him know your hunger to know Him. See Him by faith. Praise Him for Christ's Resurrection and your own.

- ◆ Calvin Miller quote

TS¶62