**Significance of the Resurrection of Christ**

**Source:** Outline of original study by Bob Deffinbaugh at Bible.org

Uniqueness of Christs resurrection

1. Because of His Deity – Mark 15:39, Romans 1:3-4, Acts 2:24-32
2. Because of the death which preceded and necessitated His resu1.rrection. John 1:29, 1 Cor 5:7

Christ is the perfect sacrifice to atone of our sins (Isa 53, Heb 9:11-14, 1 Pet 1:18-20, 2:21-25)

1. Because there was no precedent for the resurrection

1 Cor 15:23 “first fruits”

Necessity of the Resurrection

1. To prove that Jesus Christ was who He claimed to be. Son of God in John 19:7, Romans 1:4
2. To prove that Jesus Christ had accomplished what He has promised. Romans 5:9-10, 1 Cor 15:13-14, 16-17. In Acts 2:23-24, 32-33, 36 we note Peter taught the resurrection was the Fathers vindication of His Son, His message and His work,
3. In order to fulfill Biblical prophecy – 2 Peter quotes Ps 16:10 that Messiah would not be left in the grave to decay. Acts 2:27, 13:33
4. It was a logical necessity – To put an end to the agony of death. Acts 2:24
5. Vital because it is a necessary element of saving faith. Job 19:25-26, “…My Redeemer lives and He will take His stand on the earth, Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I shall see God,”

Hebrews 11:17-19 Abraham considered that God could raise Isaac from the dead even if he killed his son as a sacrifice. Abraham had a resurrection faith.

John 11:25-26 “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me shall live even if he dies, and everyone who lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

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

Urgency of our Response to Christ’s Resurrection

1. Belief in the resurrection alone does not make a person a Christian.

The Roman soldiers saw the angel who rolled away the tomb stone and they were terrified but no indication of their salvation. They witnessed the removed stone but they were paid off to lie about it. Matthew 28:12-15.

1. Changes in His body before and after resurrection were observed by His disciples.

BEFORE RSURRECTION; Isaiah 5:1-3 He was a normal looking person, no stately majesty that stood out from the crowd. This was His humiliation phase due to emptying himself and taking on the form of a bondservant (Philippians 2:6-8). Came to be judged for our sins.

He did not come to judge us but to save us. Joh :16-17, 8:15, 12:47

AFTER RESURRECTION; John 20:26 He could appear and disappear, walk through walls and doors (Luke 24:31).

AFTER ASCENSION; Philippians 2:9-11 He was highly exalted by the Father. We see Him in glory in Revelation 1:1-18. He will return to earth as the Judge to judge His enemies. Rev 19

There are resurrections for believers ( 1 Cor 15) and a final resurrection for non-believers who will face eternal judgment. Daniel 12:2 “some to everlasting life, some to disgrace and everlasting contempt.”

There is a resurrection of judgment in the future for non believers who die in their sin of unbelief. John 5:28-29, Rev 20:13-15

Rev 21:6-8, 22:13-15, Acts 5:31 the second death is the final judgment for all unbelievers as they are cast into the Lake of Fire.

At His second coming after the Tribulation He will judge those who have rejected Him as their Savior. The self righteous religious legalists will be judged according to their good works and sentenced to the Lake of Fire. Luke 18:9-14, John 8:6-9

CONCLUSION: Face the Savior or the Judge?

1. The resurrection of Jesus means that the sacrifice for our sins has been paid once and for all time. Those who accept His work on the cross as payment for their sins gain eternal life. Those who don’t will enter into the Lake of Fire.

Jesus committed no sins so His death was on our behalf. 1 Peter 2:22-25

So the greatest problem people face today is NOT ACCEPTING THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND THAT HE LIVES TODAY. The human race is dead in its sins and unable to work its way to heaven.

1. People fail to recognize the Majesty, power, and holiness of the resurrected Lord. This is Who the human race will stand before to be judged.
2. People fail to realize the necessity of taking the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus personally. An example of this is found in Acts 2:28-36 at Pentecost where Peter proclaimed that “God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Peter told them that they were guilty of rejecting and crucifying the Christ! But God the Father overruled them and resurrected Him! As a result of that message many were saved. Acts 2:37-41

The Pharisee Saul of Tarsus was saved on the road to Damascus in Acts 9, 22, and 26. He saw the Lord and was struck down by His majestic holy, light, seeing his own sinfulness.

Therefore the seventeen post resurrection appearances of Jesus Christ is the most significant event in history because it promises those who believe in Him as their Savior, life after death, face to face with the God of Heaven!