

# RESURRECTION SUNDAY

3/31/2002

MATTHEW 28:1-9

TAPE NUMBER JH 000 MARCH 31, 2002

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

**“THE FEAR FACTOR – REMOVED!”**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

**Apologetics, The Gospel, Passion Week, Decision**

**INTRODUCTION**

*to the text*

**Matthew 28:1-9**

## **The Topic Summation**

If this morning we could see the Headline News in History 2000 years ago, or the World News Tonight Broadcast from Jerusalem, what would be News of the day?

**“That on this day in History Jesus Christ rose from the dead!”**

Rom 6:9

knowing is that Jesus Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Because death no longer has power over Him.

Because of this Morning we can be Free of Fear

Heb 2:15

for it is Jesus Christ who “releases all those who are fearful who were once, through fear were held captive by the fear of death all their lives”.

One of the Ways of  
**REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR**  
Is to ask the right questions

**About Life and Death and Love and Meaning and Good and Evil**

In the Book  
"Questions Children Ask God"

*Dear God, how old are you?  
My grandpa is really old and he says that he's been talking to you all his life.  
Are you older than grandpa?*

*Dear God is it true what my mommy says;  
that if daddy uses his bowling words in the house,  
you wont let him into heaven?*

*Jesus - Grandma says that you're coming back to take us to heaven,  
she says that even our body's will go up to heaven with you.  
Jesus - when that happens - will you be taking Grandmas extra teeth too?*

*Dear Mr. God how does someone get to heaven? I want to know!  
When my gold fish died, but my dad told me that it went to heaven, if that's true,  
then why did I see my daddy flush it down the toilet. I don't think the toilet is  
the way we get to heaven. - But what do you think God? - I think you know!*

*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.*

**God Has the Answers to All Our Questions**

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *The Power of Resurrection Life*

Acts 17:22-32

for as Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus in Greece He said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things and in everything you do - you are a very religious people; 23 "for as I was passing through your city and considering the objects that you worship, I even found an altar with this inscription on it: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, this One who you attempt to worship without knowing, it is He I proclaim to you:

24 "It is this God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is the Lord of heaven and earth, He does not dwell in earthly temples made with human hands. 25 "Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything from us, Now it is He who gives life and breath to all things, 26 "And He has made from one blood source, every nation of men who dwell on the earth. He has determined their preappointed times in history, now and future and He has set the vary boundaries of their nations,

27 "so that they should seek the Lord God, in the hopes that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 "for in Him, that is God, we live and move and have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, 'For we are also His offspring. 30 "Truly, these times of ignorance about Him - God has overlooked, but not anymore - now he commands all men everywhere to repent, "because He has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus whom He has ordained. He has given us all the assurance of this -  
- by raising Jesus Christ from the dead."

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some **mocked**, while others said, "We will hear you again **later**"  
.....34 However, some men joined Paul - and **Believed** in Jesus Christ!

**There is Something within us, as Human's  
In that we a have suspicion toward Good News**

**WE HAVE A TENDENCY TO BECOME  
CYNICAL AND CRITICAL OF THINGS...**

## **Like Eiore**

**"IF IT SOUNDS TO GOOD TO BE TRUE - THAT'S BECAUSE IT IS  
IT CANT BE FREE - IF IT'S FREE - IT CAN WORTH ANYTHING  
IF I DON'T KNOW ABOUT IT - IT CANT BE GOOD"**

## **REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR**

***Through The Power of Resurrection Life***

32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead,  
some **mocked**, while others said, "We will hear you again **later**"  
.....34 However, some men joined Paul - and **Believed** in Jesus Christ!

## **REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR** ***Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"***

### **1.) *Power over the fear of "Insecurity"***

**Being afraid of failing, or having no Confidence**

We're insecure by nature because We learn from being disappointed

**JESUS KNOWS WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE**

Mark 8:35-37

"For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? 37 "Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

## **When We're Insecure we Tend to Hang On – *to things!***

### A fear of Having No Purpose

Ezek 36:26

"I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

2 Cor 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

### Opposite of Being Insecure - *being safe and secure*

## REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### **2.) *Power over the fear of "Loneliness"***

**The realization of having no one,  
to be aware of ones singleness and isolation**

The truth is, we can be surrounded by a host of people  
and still be lonely...

John 16:32

"Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now is, that you will be scattered, each one of you to your own, and you will leave Me alone

## JESUS KNOWS WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE

Mark 15:34

And at three O' clock in the after noon, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

Gal 1:3-4

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ, 4 who gave Himself for our sins, that He might deliver us from this present evil age...

## **He New Loneliness**

Opposite of Being Lonely  
*- is being content*

## REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### **3.) Power over the fear of "Being Neglected"**

**To be willfully excluded, to be disregarded,  
refused and avoided**

Being Neglected sends the message that you have no value

JESUS KNOWS WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE

John 5:39-40

"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. 40 "But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life.

I'll Think About Jesus Christ Later  
When I have the time or when things get really bad

John 6:37

"All those that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

2 Cor 6:1-2

We then, as workers together with God, we plead with you not to disregard the grace of God in vain. 2 Because He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard you, and in the day of salvation I have helped you." Look, now is the accepted time for you to decide; open your eyes, now is the day of salvation.

Opposite of Being Neglected  
*-is being wanted*

**REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR**  
***Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"***

**4.) Power over the fear of "Being Unloved"**

**Unattractive, Not desirable, Repulsive**

People can be so brutal and cold and hurtful to each other

# JESUS KNOWS WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE

John 3:17-19

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, but men loved darkness rather than light, because what they do is evil.

## **God is Unloved by this World System**

2 Tim 3:1-4

But know this, that before Jesus' return to earth, violent and dangerous days will come: 2 Because the general population will become lovers of themselves, lovers of money, braggards, proud, blasphemers, they'll be disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 and unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, people without self-control, brutal, mockers of that which is good, 4 violators of agreements, stubborn, arrogant, they will be absorbed with the love of pleasure rather than becoming lovers of God,

**Opposite of Being Unloved**  
*-is being desired*

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### 5.) *Power over the fear of "Being Ashamed"*

**Embarrassed.** To be crushed by the weight of the truth  
or a lie

Being Ashamed is what every Man & Woman experiences  
at some point in life

**JESUS KNOWS WHAT YOUR FEELING**

**people not wanting to be seen with you**

Heb 12:2

look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that  
was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has  
sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Opposite of Being Ashamed**  
*- Is being accepted*

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### 6.) *Power over the fear of "Being Rejected"*

**A throw back - unrecognized - passed over**

The world will honor you as long as it can get something from you

## JESUS KNOWS WHAT THAT FEELS LIKE

Matt 23:37

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, **but you were not willing!**

# Rejection

Perhaps there is no greater pain a person can feel

Rev 3:20

"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### **7.) Power over the fear of "Being Lost"**

**Having gone off the path - Having lost your way**

There comes a time in every persons life that you begin to question  
weather your on the right course

## JESUS KNOWS WHAT YOUR FEELING

Prov 16:25

There is a way that seems right to a man,  
but its end is the way of death.

Matt 25:32-34

"All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. 33 "And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 "Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:...' 41 "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:

John 3:17

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### 8.) *Power over the fear of "Death"*

separation from life and the living, to stop being,  
to cease to exist in the physical sense

The reality of death holds mankind captive today in fear

**JESUS KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT YOU'RE THINKING**

**BUT THE BIBLE SAYS  
THAT THERE'S A SECOND DEATH  
- ONE FAR WORSE THAN THE FIRST DEATH**

Heb 2:14-15

Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Heb 2:9

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### **9.) Power over the fear of "The Grave"**

**A pit, a place, a receptacle for the dead. A tomb**

The fear of the grave makes no sense - or does it?

## JESUS KNOWS WHAT YOUR FEELING

2 Cor 5:8

*We are confident, yes, well pleased rather  
to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.*

# REMOVING THE FEAR FACTOR

## *Through The Power of "Resurrection Life"*

### **10.) Power over the fear of "Being Condemned"**

**A Verdict rendered against you by a Judge or Jury.  
To be declared guilty without appeal.**

Guilt is evidence - that a soul is under the threat of condemnation

## JESUS KNOWS WHAT YOUR FEELING

*"He who trusts in Christ  
is not condemned; but he who does not trust is condemned already,  
because he has not trusted in the name  
of the only begotten Son of God.*

# Sin has Condemned Us All

John 5:24

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.

## Back to Acts

Acts 17

And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some **mocked**, while others said, "We will hear you again **later**"

.....34 However, some men joined Paul - and **Believed** in Jesus Christ!

# got uncomfortable?

Let that be a witness to you. There is a divine pressure on you right now

## The Alter Call Forward

Rom 10:8-11

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame."

Jer 31:3

"Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.

John 14:1

"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God,  
believe also in Me.

John 16:33

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the  
world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer,  
I have overcome the world."

John 11:25-26

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may  
die, yet shall he live. "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.  
Do you believe this?"

## **New Believers to the Right**