

**Date** : 31 March 2024 (Resurrection Sunday: Power of the new life)  
**Topic** : What does Jesus' Resurrection give to us?  
**Key verse** : *Praise be to the God...In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ... and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you... 1 Peter 1:3-4 niv*

## Introduction

Today we gather to celebrate a great momentous historical event that surpasses other historical events of significance in our world (like the American Revolution, the Reformation, invention of printing etc). Although the Resurrection took place 2,000 years ago, it is still celebrated worldwide. What does the Resurrection of Jesus give to us?

1. The power of Jesus' Resurrection gives us four great benefits:

- The new Birth - a love relationship with God
- A living Hope - a future devoid of death in hell
- An Inheritance - a birthright gift; eternal life that starts now and lasts into eternity
- A heavenly Home - a future home where love and joy is experienced (no tears, suffering).

. Why/for whom did God prepare such amazing blessings?

- Out of His grace and mercy, He gave His only Son as our Substitute to pay for our sins.
- For those who would accept His gift of salvation through the death of Jesus on the Cross.

2. What is the living Hope?

In ordinary usage, the word *hope* expresses uncertainty.

In the key verse above, this hope is living and alive because the resurrection of Jesus gives us hope for the present and the future.

For the present, through His resurrection, we have been given the right to be adopted into God's family and to acquire an eternal inheritance. Jesus has the power to bring light into the darkness of our lives.

For the future, the resurrection of Jesus means we can live in anticipation of being with Jesus.

Our Lord Jesus, before His crucifixion, gave to His disciples a living hope of His resurrection. So, before He went to the Cross, He made an appointment to meet His disciples in Galilee. He knew that death could not hold Him in the grave. King David prophesied, hundreds of years before Jesus' crucifixion, that Jesus' body will not ...*see decay...* *Psalm 16:10.*

To confirm that He did rise, Jesus appeared to hundreds of people.

The apostle Paul wrote ...*last of all, He appeared to me...*

3. What is the imperishable inheritance?

The greatest inheritance is to have eternal life as a gift from God, the Father. While all life on earth has a shelf life, the life in Christ is different; it does not depend on physical birth.

It begins when a person receives salvation by faith to believe in Jesus.

God initiates our salvation when He grants us the ability to have faith. Once we exercise that faith, He sustains and increases it so that all those who have truly trusted in Christ will continue to confess Him as Lord until the end of their lives.

4. A place in Heaven - Jesus' Home

While on earth, Jesus spoke of going home in heaven. Then, when He was on earth, He said He would prepare a home for His followers. There will be a place in heaven for you if you will choose to enter into a permanent relationship with Him.

Today you can choose to enter into this relationship.

