

## Fact Sheet for “Resurrection Sunday”

Pastor Bob Singer  
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The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the focal point of all of Scripture. What we celebrate today is more important than what we celebrate on Christmas, which was not celebrated in the early church, nor in the NT.

The first month (Exodus 12:2)  
Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits (Leviticus 23:4-14)

The specific day First Fruits was to be celebrated was “When you come into the land that I give you and reap its harvest” and “On the day after the Sabbath” (Leviticus 23:10-11). The month and day it was to be celebrated were not specified in Leviticus. These were set 40 years later when Israel first crossed the Jordan and entered the Promised Land (Joshua 5:10-12). The day of the week Passover was celebrated varied. The Feast of Unleavened Bread started at Passover and lasted for 7 days. Some time within those 7 days the Feast of First Fruits was celebrated.

Now, Jesus died for our sins on the Feast of Passover (I Corinthians 5:7b). He was buried on the Feast of Unleavened Bread. He was raised on the Feast of First fruits. I think that makes this day quite special in God’s eyes!

## For Those Who Have Not Yet Accepted Christ

God *created* man and woman.

Think about hard and soft science. The Bible does not conflict with hard scientific fact.

The *creation* of Adam and Eve took place about 6,000 years ago! God *created* man and woman without sin, but with the ability to sin.

The Bad News...They did.

Men and women were forever stained by sin.

Imputed sin – Genesis 3:19

Inherited sin – Ecclesiastes 7:20

Personal sin – 1 John 1:9

<sup>ESV</sup> **Romans 6:23a** For the wages of sin is death...

The Good News (the Gospel)...

God planned the details of salvation before we were created (Ephesians 1:4a).

## For Those Who Are Christians

We have all been “baptized” into Christ by the Holy Spirit.

**ESV 1 Corinthians 12:13** For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

God the Spirit Changes us from the inside out. We are indwelt by the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19). The Holy Spirit is the down payment of our future inheritance with Jesus Christ (Ephesians 1:13-14). The Holy Spirit opens our eyes to God's truth (1 Corinthians 2:14-16). He can produce God's results in our lives, if we let Him (Galatians 5:16-26). The Holy Spirit changes our conscience.

Paul connects the resurrection of Christ with the righteous choices we make in life.

### Romans 6:1-14

<sup>1</sup> ¶ What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup> ¶ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know (γινώσκω gin-os'-ko, suggests experimental or reflective knowing, not intuitive knowledge) that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For one who has died has been set free from sin.

Due to the Greek grammar the beginning word of verse 5 is better translated "Since" not "If"

The Christian cannot say, "I can't stop sinning!"

<sup>8</sup> Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup> We know (οἶδα oi'-da, intuitive knowledge, perceiving a self-evident truth) that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

Again, "Since" not "If"

<sup>10</sup> For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup> So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

<sup>12</sup> ¶ Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. <sup>13</sup> Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness.

We, as Christians, have a clear choice.

<sup>14</sup> For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Notice "Law" and "grace." Paul has extensively used these two terms in the first five chapters of Romans.

Resurrection Sunday is all about God's restoration of what we lost in the Garden of Eden.