



FOR THE JOY



Since we are surrounded by so
great a cloud of witnesses,
let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely,
and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross,
despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2



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FOR THE JOY

Why is the resurrection important?

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The resurrection proclaims that Jesus sacrificial death was sufficient to cover the sin of mankind.

FOR THE JOY

1 Corinthians 15:12-19

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testify about God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise if it true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised, **your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.** Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

FOR THE JOY

Why is the resurrection important?

The resurrection proclaims that Jesus sacrificial death was sufficient to cover the sin of mankind.

The resurrection proclaims that death is defeated once and for all.

FOR THE JOY

I Corinthians 15:20-22

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

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C.S. Lewis, *Miracles*

The New Testament writers speak as if Christ's achievement in rising from the dead was the first event of its kind in the whole history of the universe. He is the 'first fruits', the 'pioneer of life'. He has forced open a door that had been locked since the death of the first man. He has met, fought, and beaten the King of Death. Everything is different because He has done so. This is the beginning of the New Creation: a new chapter in cosmic history has been opened.

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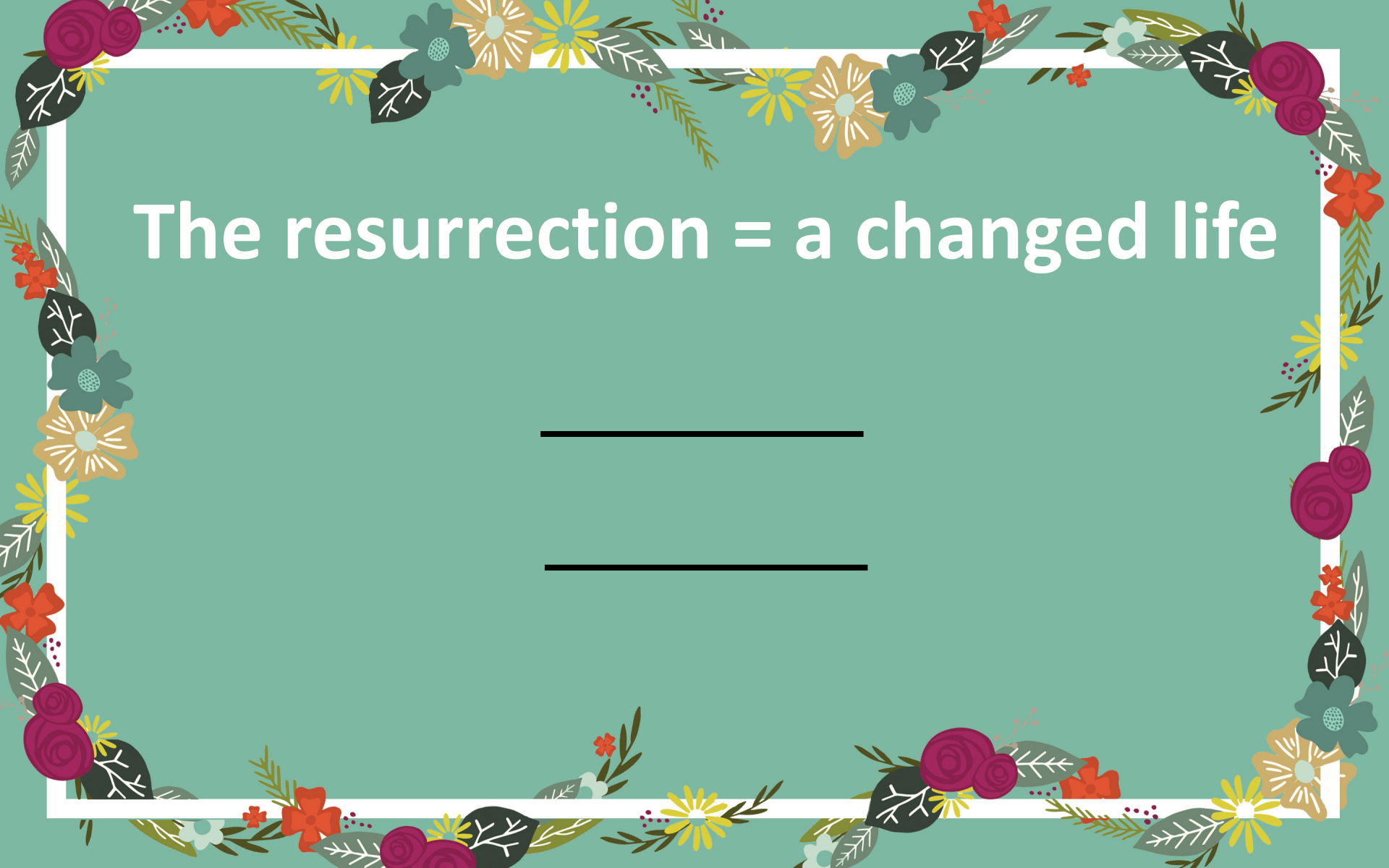
The resurrection proclaims that death is defeated once and for all.

The resurrection proclaims that our lives have meaning not only in eternity but also today.


FOR THE JOY

Ephesians 1:1-21

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the intimate knowledge of Him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which He has called you, what are the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His great might that he worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, **not only in this age but also in the one to come.**




The resurrection = a changed life



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Mary of Magdala



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Mary of Magdala

Paul of Tarsus



The resurrection = a changed life

Mary of Magdala

Paul of Tarsus

Mark and Kristy of Maplewood



FOR THE JOY

Mary of Magdala



FOR THE JOY

Devotion

Devotion through service

Devotion at the cross

*Devotion at the tomb the day of His
crucifixion*

Devotion at the tomb the first day of the week



FOR THE JOY

Paul of Tarsus

The Apostle Paul



FOR THE JOY

Persecutor



FOR THE JOY

Paul's encounter with the
risen Jesus changed
everything!



FOR THE JOY

The resurrection
transformed Paul's...

- Beliefs



FOR THE JOY

The resurrection
transformed Paul's...

- Beliefs
- Behavior



FOR THE JOY

The resurrection
transformed Paul's...

- Beliefs
- Behavior
- Belonging



FOR THE JOY

Paul's encounter with the
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FOR THE JOY

Mark and Kristy of Maplewood

Husband and Wife



FOR THE JOY

God, use me in a way that glorifies
You ("Him") and me.



FOR THE

JOY

Spring of 2015 –

the study at Quest was on II Corinthians

II Corinthians 1:3-5

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For as we share abundantly in Christ's sufferings, so through Christ we share abundantly in comfort too."



FOR THE JOY

I thought that God wanted to use me
in my strength,
but He wanted to use me
in my weakness.



FOR THE JOY

Remember

"The supreme irony of Calvary is that Satan's apparent victory was in his defeat."

(The Unfolding Mystery, Clowney 38)



FOR THE JOY

How much more does God
work in our lives the way He
worked in Jesus' life?

Our lives were literally dead,
but Jesus resurrected our lives.



So.....therefore.....what now?

So.....therefore.....what now?

The resurrection completes the inauguration of
God's kingdom. . . .

it is the decisive event which demonstrates that
God's kingdom really has been launched on earth
as it is in heaven.

The message of Easter is this....

that God's new world has been unveiled in Jesus
Christ, and you're now invited to belong to it.

– N.T. Wright