

# Title Worshipping the resurrected Christ

## Introduction

4<sup>th</sup> sermon, focussing on worshipping the resurrected Jesus.

Previous sermon we looked at the death of Christ.

Today we commemorate the resurrection of Christ.

*<sup>1</sup> But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb, <sup>3</sup> but when they went in they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. <sup>5</sup> And as they were frightened and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, Luke 24:1–6 (ESV)*

Why is the resurrection of Christ so important? Paul tells us why?

*<sup>12</sup> Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup> But if there is no resurrection of the dead, **then not even Christ has been raised.** <sup>14</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, then our **preaching is in vain** and your **faith is in vain.** <sup>15</sup> We are even found to be **misrepresenting God**, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup> For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup> And if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.** <sup>18</sup> Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ **have perished.** <sup>19</sup> If in Christ we **have hope in this life only**, we are of all people most to be pitied. <sup>20</sup> But **in fact Christ has been raised** from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For as by **a man came death**, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:12–22 (ESV)*

IF Jesus did not rise from the dead:

1. Our evangelism is in vain
2. Our faith is in vain
3. We're misrepresenting God

4. Were still in our sins
5. Those who died in Christ have perished
6. We have hope only in this life and not in the next

But Jesus did rise again from the dead.

We respond by worshipping Him.

Worship are various expression of reverence, adoration of God. It means to declare the worthiness of God both in our words and lives to others. It means to embrace what God expects of me, to walk in wieldiness to Him moment by moment.

*Worship is an inward feeling and an outward action that reflects the worth of God.(Piper)*

Every breath that I make, every word that I say, every thought I think, every emotion I feel, every decision I make and every action I do seeks to honour and exalt God ...thats true worship.

### **Passage Ps 22:22-31**

Review: Ps 22:1-21 Last Sermon entitled (the death of Christ) I gave 6 descriptions of Christ suffering and trust in God's deliverance that encourage proclamation and praise despite difficult circumstances.

1. Separation from God
2. Salvation through trust
3. Scorn from Man
4. Steadfast trust through life
5. Suffering and crucifixion
6. Supplication for deliverance
7. And the 7<sup>th</sup> Speaking highly of Gods salvation which I've broken up in 5 points

You speak highly of His salvation through worship responses Ps 22:22-31

## **Proposition**

### **5 worship response to the death and resurrection of Christ**

1. Worship through proclamation
2. Worship because He is risen.
3. Worship through service

4. Worship in fellowship
5. Worship because He is King

## 1. Worship through proclamation

*<sup>22</sup> I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: <sup>23</sup> You who fear the LORD, praise him! All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel! Psalm 22:22–23 (ESV)*

The psalmist in response to Christ death and by implication resurrection of Christ by worship.

3 groups of worshippers are addressed

1. **David** would tell of His name among the brethren (His fellows' brethren, OT worshippers of Yahweh in Israel)
2. **You who fear the Lord** = Those who have a reverential awe, a great respect of God, you who think highly of God, you should praise Him which includes all believers. Lord =Yahweh (the self-existing one, the unchangeable God, the autonomous God, the one who depends upon no one, yet you depend upon him), that one
3. **The Offspring of Jacob or Israel**= the future unborn children of Israel.

You see an example of this 1000 years

- In Mt 10:5-6 Jesus sent His disciples first to the Jews
- In Act 2, Pentecost the gospel was proclaimed the Jews (Rom 1:16) and the first church that was planted was planted among Jewish converts to Christ.
- God chose Israel from all the nations to honour him, to revere him and to proclaim. The gospel went out from Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria to the rest of the world.(Acts 1:8)

The location that worship takes place is in **the midst of the congregation**

1. Refers to where the people of God gather to worship God
2. In David day: the gathering of believers of Israel
3. In Jesus day: reference to His close disciples
4. In your my day, wherever believers gather to exalt Jesus: church bible study etc

The worshippers do a variety of actions

1. **To tell of Your name**, meaning to tell of His character and works (who Christ and what He did on the cross)
2. The commands:
3. **Praising Him**= extolling, commending, eulogizing the greatness of who God is and the greatness of his works. Practically, tell it, singing it, praying it
4. **to glorify Him**: meaning to positively acknowledge Him, to show Him exceedingly great honour, to esteem His character. Practically:
  - a. Make it your aim 1Cor 10:31
  - b. Confess your sins 1 John 1:9
  - c. Trust in God Rom 4:20
  - d. Bearing fruit (good works) John 15:8
  - e. Praising God Ps 50:23
  - f. Enduring suffering 1pet 4:16
  - g. Being content Phil 4:11-12
  - h. Praying according to His will John 14:13
  - i. Proclaiming Gods word 2 Thes 3:1
  - j. Avoiding sexual sin 1 Cor 6:18
  - k. Being united Rom 15:5
5. **to stand in awe of Him**, meaning to fear Him, to have a reverential fear, a sense of reverence, to consider him hallowed, exalted in high regard. **Practically**:It Means treat His word with respect, using it, believing it, obeying it and arranging your life by it.

Similar to David tell it to His brethren, Jesus also told it to His the disciples on the road to Emmaus. (Luk 24:27 of God and His word to His disciples.) Telling about the greatness of Christ , of God and what He has done is worship

And the many resurrected appearances: Paul writes

*<sup>3</sup> For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup> that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup> and that **he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.** <sup>6</sup> Then he **appeared to more than five hundred brothers** at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. 1 Corinthians 15:3–7 (ESV)*

In one of His earlier appearances, Jesus instructed His disciples: that as the Father had sent Him, He is sending them. John 20:19-23

By implication they are sent to **go and be witnesses** to the events of the gospel.

The author of Hebrews quoted Ps 22:22 in **reference to Jesus**

<sup>9</sup> But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, **crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.** <sup>10</sup> For it was **fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.** <sup>11</sup> For **he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source.** That is why he is not **ashamed to call them brothers,** <sup>12</sup> **saying, "I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise."** Heb 2:9–12 (ESV)

Here the scope of the brethren is broadened to include **all those He sanctified** them through His death on the cross. Vs 11

1. David told it to his brethren.
2. Jesus to His disciples and all who are sanctified by his death and resurrection

### **Who will you tell it too?**

Example:

Many years ago, I told it to a student on the campus in Pretoria...

He in turn in His excitement told it to His whole political science class

Will you tell the gospel to others? So that some of may become worshipper and join in:

1. praising God
2. glorifying God
3. being in awe of God

*The greatest joy is to know and glorify Christ, the 2<sup>nd</sup> greatest joy is to make Him known that others may glorify him. (Steve Lawson)*

Evangelism is not the end Goal, Worship is.

You proclaim the gospel so people would worship

### **Application**

1. Will you share the most important story of Christ or will you be quiet?

2. The love of God and the love of your neighbour compels you to herald to the gospel so that they may worship Him.

*The height of the Christian life is adoring Christ, the depth of it is loving Him, the breath of it is obeying Him, the length of it is following Him, Everything in the Christian life revolves around Jesus Christ, simply Christianity is Christ (Steve Lawson)*

3. How much do you ponder Christ?
4. How much do you speak of Him?
5. How much do you praise Him?

*True worship that is pleasing to God radiates throughout a persons entire life(RC Sproul)*

## **2.Worship because He is risen.**

We worship Jesus not only because He died, but also because He rose again. (Next vs)

*<sup>24</sup> For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted, and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. Psalm 22:24 (ESV)*

*<sup>24</sup> **For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,***

**For** implies a reason: The reason why you should praise, glorify, stand in awe of God while proclaiming who He is and what He did.

**He** refers to God the Father

**Despised**= looked upon with contempt, or hatred, or spurning

**abhorred** = be disgusted with, shrink back from, thought of as repugnant, detestable

**The affliction** here refers to the horrors and sufferings and the events that surrounded the cross.

**The afflicted** here refers to Jesus.

God did not look down with contempt or disgust at the terrible afflictions Christ endured on the cross.

The enemies of Christ were disgusted at Christ but not God.

Why? This was all part of Gods plan. Isaiah illustrates this

*<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the **will of the LORD to crush him; he has put** him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; **he shall prolong his days;** the*

*will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. <sup>11</sup> Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities. Isaiah 53:10–11*

1. It was Gods will:
2. to crush Him
3. To put him to grief
4. To make him an offering for guilt
5. To have His soul in anguish

Why was this Gods plan/will?

1. Because its through the Death of Christ that **God would be shown to be Righteous.**

*“righteousness is the state of conforming to God’s perfect law and holy character= root translated as justified, often used to describe Gods justice)*

2. Because it was through the death Of Christ, (The anguish that my servant- Jesus) **many would be accounted as righteous.**

As sins of the elect were debited to Jesus’s account His righteousness was credited to their account

*<sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)*

But I want you to notice a change:

*<sup>1</sup> My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, from the words of my groaning? <sup>2</sup> O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer, and by night, but I find no rest. Psalm 22:1–2 (ESV)*

- From being abandoned to being present
- From being far to be close
- from God hidden to God being revealed vs 1-2

*<sup>11</sup> Be not far from me, for trouble is near, and there is none to help. Psalm 22:11 (ESV) +vs 21*

- From not hearing the prayer to rescue to hearing when He cried for help. Vs 21

**and he has not hidden his face from him, but has heard, when he cried to him. Psalm 22:24 (ESV)**

Why this change in stance between God the Father and God the son.

Isaiah gives us the key again.

<sup>10</sup> Yet it was the **will of the LORD to crush him**; **he has put** him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; **he shall prolong his days**; the **will of the LORD shall prosper** in his hand. Is 53:10

**God prolonged his days** after death on the earth.

3. This is an OT way of saying, **Jesus would be raised from the dead** and spent more time on the earth.

The resurrection of Jesus meant:

1. He had paid for the penalty of sin
2. He was **victorious over** sin and death
3. He had defeated Satan
4. He had accomplished salvation

And

**the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand**

Meaning Gods **will be succeeded**, it progressed steadfastly

Between God the Father and God the Son on the cross, there was a temporal breach (when He turned his back on His Son as He poured out His wrath upon Him as the sin bearer). **The resurrected** Jesus meant that breach was restored.

The **reason for the change**: Was Jesus had risen from the dead and :

1. the Fathers face was not hidden anymore from the Son
2. The fellowship between Father and Son was now restored and He heard his cry and now Christ is exalted at the right hand of the Father

You are called to stand in awe, to glorify him, to praise Him and to tell all people that Jesus indeed rose from the dead.

Jesus died and rose again so worship an praise Him.



## Application

1. The resurrection of Jesus means to you and me that Jesus conquered, Satan, sin and death and eternal unbreaking fellowship now exists between the Son of God and God the Father.
2. Because Jesus rose from the dead,
  - a. You are reconciled with God
  - b. you can have confidence that Christ will raise you from the dead.
  - c. you can know your faith is not in vain.
  - d. you can have hope
  - e. you can have salvation through faith in Christ
  - f. you are united with Him, the old self is crucified and you are no longer enslaved to sin.  
(Rom 6)
  - g. You can and should proclaim it.
  - h. **And ultimately, you should worship Him because He rose from the dead.**

*“The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the greatest event in the history of the world. It is so foundational to Christianity that no one who denies it can be a true Christian.”  
(MacArthur)”*

## 3. Worship through service

It is through our acts of service that we worship Him.

*25 From you comes my praise in the great congregation; my vows I will perform before those who fear him. Psalm 22:25 (ESV)*

***25 From you comes my praise***

God is not only the object of worship, but here we see that He is the source or the originator of worship.

*<sup>23</sup> This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:23 (ESV)*

Who contemplate the marvel of Christ death and resurrection, it drives you to exalt God.

***in the great congregation;***

The psalmist shifts His gaze to worship in the future.

He envisions the great congregation, referring to the greatest gathering: the redeemed saints to worship the exalted Christ on His throne.

Revelation pictures something of that.

*<sup>9</sup> After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, Revelation 7:9–11 (ESV)*

The end of missions, the end of evangelism, the end of telling unbelievers the gospel for salvation is people from every tongue tribe and nation bowing down and worshipping Jesus in Heaven because of His salvation.

Example If you just think about the excitement there is for Christmas dinner, how much greater will it be when Millions if not billions of Believers gathers to worship Jesus.

David will be there, and every believer in Jesus, who has repented and trusted in his death and resurrection will be a part of this congregation joining in praise to Jesus.

The Psalmist then returns to his response then to the OT practices of worship.

***my vows I will perform before those who fear him. Psalm 22:25 (ESV)***

My vows refer to acts of service as expressions of worship. These were , thank offering OT saints performed to thank God for His deliverance from .

David stated I perform/paid vow of service out of worship for what God has done..

As believers you and I are called to respond in a similar manner to the events of the gospel.

Rom 1-11, Paul taught the gospel and in Rom 12 explained how to respond.

He concludes Rom 11:33-36 in worshipping God for His wisdom and knowledge and then you read.

*<sup>1</sup> I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Romans 11:33–12:1 (ESV)*

Believers worship Jesus because of who he is and what he did in the gospel by committing their lives to serve Him in their bodies.

You present your inner and outer body to be used by God as an instrument of service.

### **Application**

1. Your and my response to the gospel is to give your life in total surrender and service to Jesus.

*Being wholly given over to God now is the essential and best preparation for future service. (Montgomery Boice)*

## **4. Worship in fellowship**

*<sup>26</sup> The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied; those who seek him shall praise the LORD! May your hearts live forever! Psalm 22:26 (ESV)*

The OT practice of offering vows were followed by a fellowship meal.

The feast would last for 2 days (Lev 7:16) in which vow offering was eaten.

Family, friends, servants and the priest were invited.

*<sup>17</sup> You may not eat within your towns the tithe of your grain or of your wine or of your oil, or the firstborn of your herd or of your flock, or any of your vow offerings that you vow, or your freewill offerings or the contribution that you present, <sup>18</sup> but you shall eat them before the LORD your God in the place that the LORD your God will choose, you and your son and your daughter, your male servant and your female servant, and the Levite who is within your towns. And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God in all that you undertake. Deuteronomy 12:17–18 (ESV)*

The needy, the afflicted, the poor would eat during this time and be satisfied and the God seekers would praise God as news of Gods great deliverance was shared.

***May your hearts live forever! Psalm 22:26 (ESV)***

The Hebrew reads: your hearts live ever more

Your inner person lives eternally.

Jesus Christ will have a marriage feast with the afflicted, just as Jesus was the afflicted one, so His disciples are the afflicted in this world.

And in the Marriage feast of the Lamb, the believers shall eat with Him, be satisfied and live for all eternity with Him. (Rev 19:6-9, Ps 23)

*<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever. Psalm 23:5–6 (ESV)*

The psalmist envisions the eternal fellowship that believers will have with Jesus.

Its in times of fellowship with other believers and in times of fellowship with God, that it gives rise to worshipping Him. But the core reason we worship is because of what Jesus did for us through His death and resurrection.

### **Application**

*<sup>3</sup> that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. 1 John 1:3 (ESV)*

1. There awaits a great marriage feast for the believers in Christ.
2. Eternal life has already begun for every true believer in Christ.
3. Those who truly seek God, those who are willing to turn away from their own sins, from their own idols will join with other believers and have fellowship with God for all eternity.

## **5. Worship because He is King**

*<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you. <sup>28</sup> For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations. <sup>29</sup> All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust, even the one who could not keep himself alive. <sup>30</sup> Posterity shall serve him; it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; <sup>31</sup> they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it. Psalm 22:27–31 (ESV)*

***<sup>27</sup> All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.***

David looks towards the future and broadens His perspective towards the nations of the world.

He includes various groups:

1. **The ends of the earth** refer the geographical boundaries from where the nations come from.
2. The **prosperous** of the earth( Heb=: those who are self sufficient, those who have possessions and wealth that tend to be proud in this world)
3. All **who go down to the dust**, even the one who could not keep himself alive (the dead)
4. **Posterity** The unborn generations

They will do various actions

1. They will **remember** (the events of the gospel)
2. They will **turn** to God ( repent)
3. They will be caused to worship
4. They will **eat** and be **satisfied**
5. They will **serve** Him
6. They will **proclaim** Him

The grammar implies here that they will be caused or made to worship God.

***28 For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.***

The reason is provided: Yahweh is King and He rules over the nations.

God is the ultimate cause of worship because He is the King of Kings.

He commands and has the power to make it happen.

1. Salvation is a work of Yahweh the King.
2. From beginning to end.

*29 Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent." John 6:29 (ESV)*

It is through Christ death and resurrection that unrighteous people can be made righteous.

This is the work of the King

***it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; 31 they shall come and proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn,***

This Gospel will be told to coming generations.

They will proclaim His righteousness to a people unborn.

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." Romans 1:16–17 (ESV)

Righteousness refers to the justice of God.

The gospel of Christ death and resurrection reveals a Holy God executing justice as He kills His own son as a substitutionary sacrifice for your and my sins.

The Gods reveals God is a just God.

And its in the Gospel that God justifies those who place their faith in Him.

<sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup> and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup> It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:23–26 (ESV)

God is a righteous God is proclaimed through the gospel to the nations.

God being a Just God has brought about a salvation for sinners without compromising His character as a Just and righteous God.

He did this through the cross.

And the resurrection of Christ from the Dead, proves that He was successful.

**.... he has done it. Psalm 22:27–31 (ESV)**

## **Application**

1. Since Jesus is King and He rules over the nations:
  - a. You and I must obey His commands.
  - b. Jesus commanded you to make disciples of all the nations.
  - c. So you worship Jesus by making make followers of Jesus through His church.
  - d. Secondly you obey and worship Him Him by living a life of continual repentance and faith...turn back to God every time you wander of teh narrow path of faith and obedience.?

- So, live your life in worship to the King
- In presenting the members of your body in service to Him.

*<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. Romans 6:12–13 (ESV)*

## **Closing**

### **5 worship response to the death and resurrection of Christ**

1. Worship through proclamation
2. Worship because He is risen.
3. Worship through service
4. Worship in fellowship
5. Worship because He is King

A High View of God leads to high worship and holy living, but a low view of God leads to trivial worship and low living (Steve Lawson)