

Jesus is the resurrection and the life

1. **ILLUS. A Man Fell Into a Pit... —Jesus ministry was only 3 years... ONLY 3!**
 - a. But within 3 years Jesus gave the greatest teaching ever known to mankind and the most amazing miracles the world ever witnessed.
 - b. But If our greatest need was KNOWLEDGE—then Jesus would've taught for 30 yrs not 3.
 - c. If our greatest need was physical healing—then Jesus would've healed everybody.
 2. **True Knowledge and good health are important, but they're not our greatest need.**
 - a. Our greatest need is bigger than that...
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I. JESUS HAD POWER OVER DEATH

A. WE SEE JESUS POWER THROUGHOUT HIS MINISTRY

1. **His Power over Nature**: When He walked on water in the middle of a storm. When He said 'Peace be still' and the wind and waves ceased and there was a great calm (Mk 4:39).
2. **His Power over Diseases**: He gave sight to the blind and He healed lepers and made them clean. A woman touched the hem of His garment and was immediately healed.
3. **His Power over Creation**: When He turning water into wine and when He fed 5,000 from 5 loaves and two fish.
4. **His Power over Demons**: who knew who Jesus was and trembled in fear when He cast them out of a person possessed by them.
5. **His Power over Death**: when a little 12 yr old girl had died. Jesus went to her and said: 'Little girl, arise' and she was alive from the dead.
—When He was traveling a funeral procession was carrying the body of a young man who had just died. Jesus touched the open coffin and said "Young man, I say to you, arise." (Lk 7:14) and He rose from the dead!

B. JESUS COULD NOT ATTEND A FUNERAL WITHOUT BREAKING IT UP —AND RAISING THE PERSON FROM THE DEAD!

1. **(John 11:17–27) Martha was right: If Jesus had been there her brother would not have died...**
2. **But there is something more important than death—and that is FAITH to believe in Jesus who has power over life and death!**
3. **(John 11:32–44) Jesus could not attend a funeral w/o breaking it up.**

C. JESUS IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE (John 11:25–26)

1. **Death is the separation of the spirit from the body (James 2:26)**
Resurrection is the reuniting of the spirit with the body

2. Word cemetery is made of two latin words: ‘ceme’ means ‘half’ Terra: ‘clay’

a) A Cemetery is for the clay half of the body... the Spirit returns to God.

“Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it. (Ecc 12:7)

3. There is no Pharmaceutical miracle drug that can reverse death and give you eternal life... Only Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

“Some see the miracles recorded in scripture as an implausible suspension of the laws of the physical universe. As signs, though, they serve just the opposite function. Death, decay, entropy, and destruction are the true suspensions of God’s laws; miracles are the early glimpses of restoration. Jesus healings are not supernatural miracles in a natural world. They are the only truly natural things in a world that is unnatural, demonized and wounded”. -Jurgen Moltmann

4. The Enemy Wants You To Believe This is All Normal...

War, Crime, Tragedy, Disease and Death are all normal: **NO!** From eternity to eternity this is **NOT** Normal... this is a temporary parenthesis in time.

II. JESUS HUMBLLED HIMSELF UNTO DEATH

A. JESUS LEFT THE GLORY OF HEAVEN TO SAVE US (Philippians 2:5–8)

- 1. To be born in a dusty village on the outer realm of the Roman empire... and there wasn’t even any room for the King of Glory...**
- 2. He arrived Not as an Angel—but as an Infant**
- 3. Not in Palace—but a Manger**
- 4. Not in Riches—but in Poverty**
- 5. Not in Strength—but in Weakness of human flesh**
- 6. Not to Be Served—but to Serve**
- 7. Not to Be Pampered—but to be Rejected**
- 8. Not to be honored—but to be Killed**
- 9. But not just Killed—but to be execution as a criminal...**
- 10. But not just any execution—the execution of crucifixion on a cross... the most excruciating death devised by evil man**

B. WHY WOULD THE CREATOR OF TIME & SPACE ENTER TIME & SPACE TO DIE SUCH A HORRIBLE DEATH?

- 1. Jesus had power over death—So Why would He allow Himself to die?**
 - a) When His enemies arrested Him—Peter pulled out a sword to save Jesus
 - b) Not Realizing that Jesus could call down 12 legions of angels!
- 2. They arrested Him and interrogated Him... they whipped and scourged Him**
 - a) They Mocked and Spit on Him... They blindfolded Him and slapped Him in the face
 - b) and said: Prophecy who it was that hit you.
- 3. Even Pilate Knew Jesus was innocent... he knew it was a set up!**
 - a) He knew that the enemies of Jesus wanted Him dead—turned Him b/c of Envy.
 - b) Even Pilates Wife sent an urgent message to her husband to warn him... that Jesus was innocent (Matthew 27:19 NIV)

4. READ (John 19:1–18)

III. JESUS OVERCAME DEATH

A. GOD WOULD NOT ALLOW DEATH TO HAVE THE LAST WORD— GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD

1. The Stone was rolled away... but not to let Jesus out!
2. The Grave could not hold Jesus...
3. It was rolled away to let the disciples see the empty tomb.
4. The Grave could not hold Jesus... (John 20:19–20; 24–29)

B. GOD TOOK THE WORST POSSIBLE THING IN ALL THE UNIVERSE...

1. The Horrible Torture and Death of the Son of God, as a Criminal on a Cross
And Turned it into the Best Possible Thing in all the universe For Us!
2. The Creator of Time and Space Entered Time and Space—
—And Defeated Death For Us!
3. And Opened a New and Living Way for us into Heaven...

C. IF GOD CAN TAKE THE WORST POSSIBLE EVENT IN ALL THE UNIVERSE AND TURN IT INTO THE BEST POSSIBLE EVENT FOR US...

1. THEN WHY WOULDN'T HE HELP YOU AND STRENGTHEN YOU
THROUGH ALL YOUR STRUGGLES & TRAILS IN THIS LIFE?
 - a) If God Gave You the Very Best of Heaven in order to Save You...
 - b) then Why Wouldn't He Help You In Your Time of Need Now?
2. (Romans 8:31–32, 35, 37–39) If God is For Us Who Can Be Against Us?
 - a) We can't fix everybody's problems – we can't even fix all of our own problems
 - b) Because there are wounds only God can heal... Problems only God can solve...
 - c) With man this is impossible—but with God ALL things are possible!
3. But Jesus went to the Cross to Make a Way where there was no way...
—A New and Living Way to Eternal Life with God in Heaven
 - a) And God raised Him from the Dead and exalted Him to be head of all things
 - b) That every knee would bow and every tongue confess that Jesus is Lord to the
Glory of God the Father! (Philippians 2:8–11)

CONCLUSION:

1. Only Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25–26)
 - Jesus died so we could live... He became like us so we could become like Him
 - With Man this is impossible—but with God All Things Are Possible!

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, Nor has it entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” (1 Cor 2:9)
2. God did His Part—But He Asks Us to Do Our Part:
 - c) To Believe > Repent > Confess > To Be Baptized > and to Live By Faith
 - d) Trusting and Obeying the Word of God... as Jesus did – JUST DON'T GIVE UP!