



SATURDAY

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The Impact of the Resurrection: Assurance of the Past, Power for Today, & Hope for Tomorrow

As a big-time sports fan, one of the very few times I've been able to experience one of my favorite teams win a championship was in 2021 when the Atlanta Braves won the World Series. I still remember the excitement and emotion I felt watching first baseman, Freddie Freeman catch the final out in the bottom of the ninth inning of game 6 to defeat the Houston Astros and become world champions. For an entire year, we celebrated the fact that the Braves were champions. That is until the Astros redeemed

themselves winning it in 2022. But...truth be told, it obviously had no significant impact on my personal life whatsoever. It brought some excitement and temporal happiness. It's fun to remember and relive, but did it really impact or change my life in any way? Of course not.

As we approach Easter Sunday, I want to remind us as believers in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, that this holiday is not *just* the anniversary of a historical event. It was then and is *still* today an impacting, life-changing occasion and we should celebrate it as such! The resurrection gives us (1) assurance over our past, (2) power for today, and (3) hope for the future. Let me take just a few moments to break down those points.

(1) The resurrection gives us assurance of Christ's accomplished work. [2 Corinthians 5:21](#) tells us that Christ *became* sin on our behalf. As He cried, "It is finished" on the cross ([John 19:30](#)), Jesus was declaring that He had fully accomplished what was required of a holy, just God for the price of sin. We no longer have to bear that punishment ([Romans 8:1](#))! Then, after the wages of sin had been paid ([Romans 6:23](#)), God displayed His beautiful love for us by defeating death, hell, and the grave ([Revelation 1:18](#)) as the Son began to breathe again, opened his eyes, and walked out of the grave assuring us that God the Father had been satisfied!

(2) The resurrection gives us power to live in the Spirit today. [1 Corinthians 15:45](#) says that the second Adam (Christ) became a "life-giving Spirit". The life He gives, He gives to those of us who "confess Him as Lord and believe that God raised Him from the dead" ([Romans 8:28](#)). In [Ephesians 2:5-6](#), Paul reminds us that just as God raised Christ from the dead, we too have been raised with Him. It's an accomplished work! That same power is ours today! Author Adrian Wornock [writes](#), "What the Spirit does for believers today is only possible as a result of the resurrection."

(3) The resurrection also gives us hope for our own resurrection one day! [Romans 8:11](#) expands on the Spirit's power in us. Because we have been made alive spiritually in Christ, we have assurance that the Spirit which now inhabits us is the hope of our own resurrection from these mortal bodies ([Ephesians 1:14](#)). I love these lyrics from "[Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery](#)" written by Matt Bosswell, "What a foretaste of deliverance, how unwavering our hope! Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when He comes!"

So Easter is far more than the anniversary of a historical event. It's far more than something accomplished and celebrated in the past, but having no lasting impact—like our favorite sports team winning a title. Oh no! This celebration is far greater because it is eternally impacting! This

Easter may we rest in the accomplished work of Christ, live in the power of the Spirit, and take hope in the day when we too will be raised with Christ to the glory of the Father!

For further assurance and encouragement from the Word:

[Ephesians 2:1-10](#), [Romans 8:1-11](#), & [1 Corinthians 15](#)