

THE BENEFIT OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

**Preached by: Jesus' Holiness, Saint Dikeji Daniel Miyerijesu, the Bishop of the
whole world on Easter Sunday 9th April, 2023**

Bible References: Romans 8:1-4, Matthew 28:1-10, John 20:1-18.



Jesus is indeed humble. Although he is God, he humbled himself, entered the womb of a woman and was born like every other human being. He grew up, and willingly submitted himself to be suffered and killed. He was brutally whipped, slapped, worn a crown of thorn and he suffered to death.

When we consider the suffering of Jesus Christ, even if we give him our whole life, it will not be enough. Imagine the dirty slap he received from a soldier.

Jesus was questioned about his teachings and he said, ***“I have always spoken publicly to everyone; all my teaching was done in the synagogues and in the Temple, where all the people come together. I have never said anything in secret. Why, then, do you question me? Question the people who heard me. Ask them what I told them...”*** This reply of Jesus angered one of the soldiers close to him and he gave Jesus a dirty slap, saying, ***“How dare you talk like that to the high Priest!”***

Jesus strongly felt the slap and answered the soldier, ***“If I have said anything wrong, tell everyone here what it was. But if I am right in what I said, why do you hit me?”*** Sometimes when I remember this slap Jesus took, I shed tears. He has the power to teach the soldier a lesson but he left him alone.

Jesus was asked other questions but not all he replied to because sometimes, silence is the best answer given to a fool (**See Matthew 26:62-63**). Remember the insult the thief hanged by his left hand poured on him; but Jesus didn't answer him. Jesus endured all the agony until he was finally killed on the cross.

After Jesus was put to death, he was buried. Before then, he said he would rise again on the third day. For this reason, the Jews remembered what he said. How Jesus said no one could take his life and that he gave it out on his own and would take it back; how he would rise again after three days (**See John 2:19; 10:17-18**). To them, Jesus was lying because they didn't believe that anyone could rise from death.

After his death, he was buried. The Jews remembered what Jesus said; so they made arrangement to secure the grave thinking that the disciples would come and steal the body of Jesus and later claim that he rose as he said.

In spite of all their plans, Jesus resurrected. No one knew except those who went to check the grave. You read how Mary was crying when she discovered Christ was no more in the grave. Mary from whom Jesus drove out demons was not happy for not seeing the master. Jesus seeing the love and courage of Mary, appeared to her. She was the first person to see Jesus after his resurrection. It was not the right time for Jesus to reveal himself to them but because of the love of Mary Magdalene, he revealed himself to her. God wants us to know Jesus just

as we know the simple arithmetic, 1+1. People face some problems because they don't know Jesus.

The resurrection of Jesus was a mystery. Satan and all his cohorts surrounded the grave. But in the presence of them all, an angel came, rolled the stone away and Jesus victoriously rose. Realizing that he had risen, they planned a lie that he didn't rise.

Our joy is that, Jesus has been raised and no one can kill him again. Service was initially held on Saturday (Sabbath), but after Jesus' resurrection on Sunday, it was changed to Sunday.

Now, what is the benefit of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for us? Jesus rose to give us life. Romans 8:1-3, ***“There is no condemnation now for those who live in union with Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit, which brings us life in union with Christ Jesus, has set me free from the law of sin and death. What the Law could not do, because of human nature was weak, God did...”***

No one can condemn us again because Jesus suffered, died and resurrected for us; what no one could do for us. We have been free from the law of sin and death. This is our benefit.