

EASTER 2014

The central theme of the apostles' preaching in Acts wasn't the crucifixion, it was the RESURRECTION--it validated everything He said and did in His life.

----more eyewitnesses than the signing of the Declaration of Independence
----enough evidence to stand up in a court of law

- 1) **Nothing** can keep Jesus from keeping His promises (no matter how outrageous they are)
 - "He is risen **JUST LIKE HE SAID.**"
 - despite **Satan's successful strategy**, doing his **worst**...God used it to do His **best**
 - * "God's plans cannot be sabotaged" Job 42:2
 - "...**all** the promises of God are "y e s " in Jesus" 2 Cor 1:20

- 2) In Jesus we owe God nothing
 - our sin-debt was PAID-IN-FULL...the payment/sacrifice was **accepted** in His resurrection
 - * "He forgave us **all** our sins, having **canceled** the charge of our legal **indebtedness**, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross." Col. 2:13,14

- 3) In Jesus God will never condemn us
 - "He was raised to life for our **justification** " Rom 4:25
 - "There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 8:1)
 - Jesus bore it ALL - "by sending His Son as a sin offering...God condemned sin in His flesh..." Rom 8:3

- 4) In Jesus we were made alive, even though we were spiritually dead Eph. 2:5
 - the same power that raised Him made us alive
 - "...His power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead" Eph. 1:19,20
 - same kind of LIFE that He has now: ZOE
 - because He lives, we too will live Jn 14:19
 - the same Spirit who raised Him from the dead lives in us Rom 8:11

- 5) He is always praying for us
 - "Because Jesus lives forever...He **always lives** to make intercession for them" Heb 7:25
 - He rose to send the Holy Spirit to live in us (Jn 16) and the Holy Spirit is always praying with us (and for us) according to God's will Romans 8

- 6) In Jesus we have hope for this life & beyond this world & this body
 - now we have a "**living hope**" thru His resurrection
 - * "he has given us new birth into a **living hope** through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" 1 Peter 1:3
 - we will know Him intimately, the way that He knows me intimately 1 Cor 13:12
 - we will be like Him 1 Jn 3:2
 - we will have a body suited for eternity 1 Cor 15