

## **Resurrection Sunday – 2023**

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- \* Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday were HIS CHOICE**
- \* Resurrection was a visible statement of change of role**
- \* The narrative makes SURE we ‘remember’ to BELIEVE HIM!**
- \* Some of the Results are Mind-boggling: Seated in the Heavens with Him**

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Abundant Life (John 10.10)

“Under Jesus there will be “a rich and satisfying life” (lit., they will “have life and have it **completely**”). In every area there will be an abundance of divine provisions. This goes **beyond the idea of eternal life** to the daily needs of God’s flock. “ [CBC]

“The life that Jesus came to provide is not physical but spiritual. Yet that which is spiritual naturally overflows into every aspect of physical existence. Life embraces **all that it means to be alive in this world** and firmly attached by faith to the living Lord. Fullness of life is the reward of faith. It is by trusting Jesus and forgetting self that **real life—physical and spiritual—breaks into one’s consciousness like the dawning of a new day.**” [EBC]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday were HIS CHOICE

"For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord.

I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again."

John 10:17-18

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday were HIS CHOICE

“The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.”

So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” Jesus answered them, “**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**” The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?”

But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

John 2.13-19

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Ezekiel's Vision: The Valley of Dry Bones (chapter 37)

“He [God] set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.”

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Ezekiel's Vision: The Valley of Dry Bones (chapter 37)

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.'

Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel.

And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land.

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Resurrection was a visible statement of change of role:

“... concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was **declared to be the Son of God in power** according to the Spirit of holiness **by his resurrection from the dead**, Jesus Christ our Lord... “

(Romans 1:4)

“Declared with power to be the Son of God (1:4). The NIV suggests that the resurrection marked the time when God, as it were, “announced” to the world that Jesus was Son of God. **But the verb Paul uses suggests rather that Jesus was appointed to a new role at the time of the resurrection.** Since Jesus has always been Son of God, this new role must be “Son of God in power.” Paul may again be alluding to Old Testament messianic passages—in this case, to ones that use language about the **installment of a king** to predict the coming of Messiah. Note, for instance, Psalm 2:7: “I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, ‘You are my Son; **today** I have become your Father.’ ” [ZIBBC]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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**The narrative makes SURE we ‘remember’ to BELIEVE HIM!**

And looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back—it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. And he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, **just as he told you.**”

[[Mk 16:4–8.](#)]



# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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**The narrative makes SURE we ‘remember’ to BELIEVE HIM!**

Now after the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake, **for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.** His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. And for fear of him the guards trembled and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, **for he has risen, as he said.** Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and behold, he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples.

[[Mt 28:1–8.](#)]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## The Risen Jesus did NOT need the stone rolled away!

“Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.

“On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side.

“Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”

“When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.” [Luke 24]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in dazzling apparel. 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**? He is not here, but has risen. **Remember how he told you**, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and on the third day rise.”

[Lk 24:4–7.]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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**The narrative makes SURE we ‘remember’ to BELIEVE HIM!**

Now it was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles, but these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they **did not believe them**. But Peter rose and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; and he went home marveling at what had happened. .”

[Lk 24:10–12.]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Millenium Sacrifices will be Memorial – like the Lord's Supper is now

“Many have objected to the thought of animal sacrifices being reinstituted during the Millennium. Since these sacrifices, it is argued, revert back to the Levitical sacrificial system, they would seem to be out of place in the Millennium. This has caused some to take the passage symbolically rather than literally. However, no difficulty exists if one understands the proper function of these sacrifices. ..., even after the church began, Jewish believers did not hesitate to take part in the temple worship (Acts 2:46; 3:1; 5:42) and even to offer sacrifices (Acts 21:26). They could do this because **they viewed the sacrifices as memorials of Christ's death.**

The Levitical sacrificial system, which looked forward to Christ, was replaced by the Lord's Supper, which looked back to His death and forward to His second coming (1 Cor. 11:24, 26).

At Christ's second coming Israel will again assume her place of prominence in God's kingdom program (cf. Rom. 11:25–27).

The Lord's Supper will be eliminated, because Christ will have returned. It will be **replaced by animal sacrifices, which will be memorials or object lessons of the supreme sacrifice made by the Lamb of God.** The slaughtering of these animals will be vivid reminders of the Messiah's suffering and death.

Charles H. Dyer, “Ezekiel,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck; vol. 1; Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 11305.

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Some of the Results are Mind-boggling

But God still loved us with such great love. He is so rich in compassion and mercy.

Even when we were dead and doomed in our many sins, he united us into the very life of Christ and saved us by his wonderful grace!

He **raised us up** with Christ the exalted One, and **we ascended** with him into the glorious perfection and authority of the heavenly realm, for we are **now** co-seated as one with Christ!

Throughout the coming ages we will be **the visible display of the infinite, limitless riches of his grace and kindness**, which was showered upon us in Jesus Christ.

For it was only through this wonderful grace that we believed in him. Nothing we did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the gracious gift from God that brought us to Christ!

So no one will ever be able to boast, for salvation is never a reward for good works or human striving.

We have become **his poetry, a re-created people** that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for **we are joined to Jesus**, the Anointed One.

**Ephesians 2.4ff (Passion translation)**

# **Resurrection Sunday – 2023**

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## **Love is as Strong as Death – Unrelenting in its Pursuit**

Love is as strong as death (Song 8.6)

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## Love is as Strong as Death – Unrelenting in its Pursuit

Love is as strong as death (Song 8.6)

### But our future bodies are not subject to death!

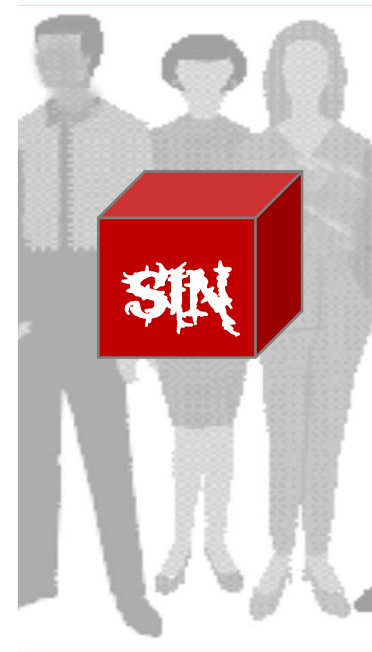
“... for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable puts on the imperishable, and **this mortal puts on immortality**, then will come about the saying that is written: “**DEATH HAS BEEN SWALLOWED UP in victory.**



# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## The Salvific ‘Swap’ - 2 Corinths 5:21

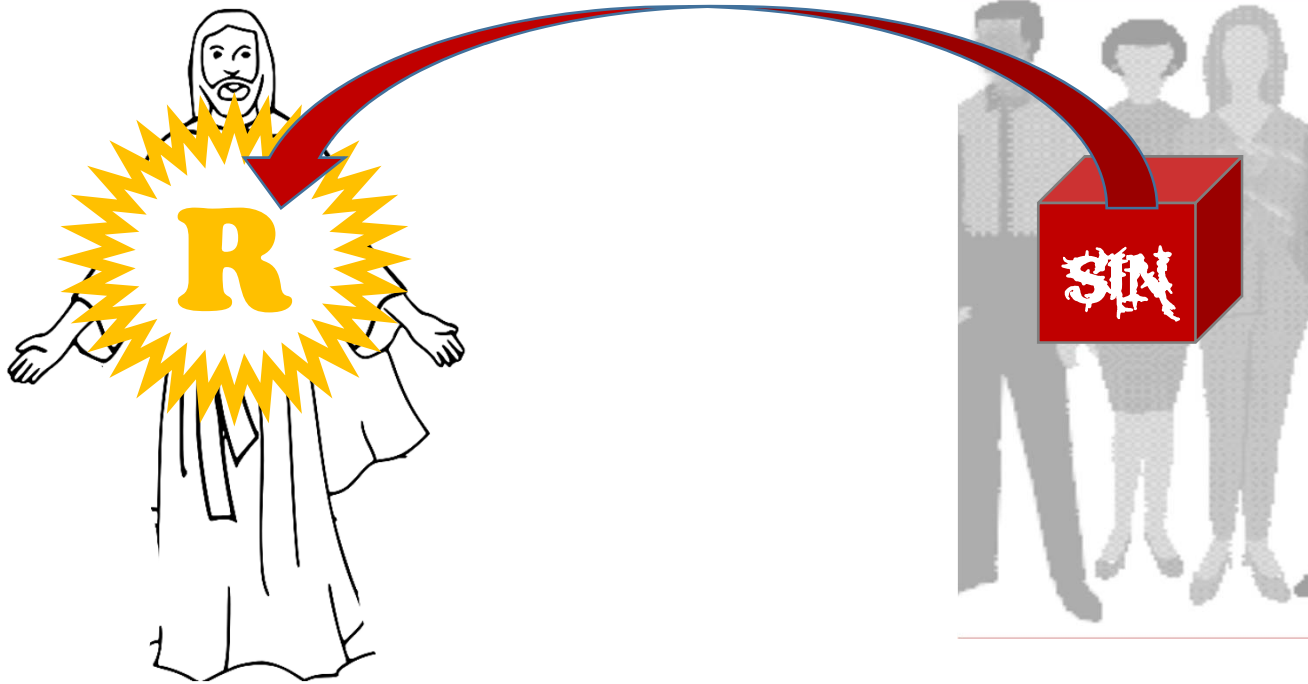


# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## The Salvific ‘Swap’ - 2 Corinths 5:21

For He (God) made Him (Christ) to be made sin **for us**

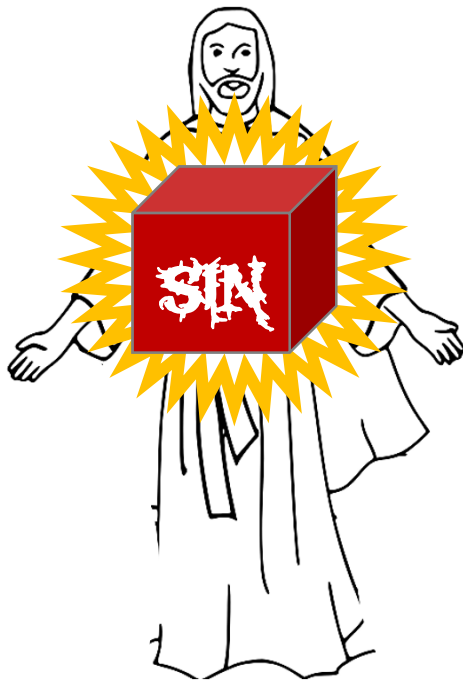


# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## The Salvific ‘Swap’ - 2 Corinths 5:21

For He (God) made Him (Christ) to be made sin for us



“And He Himself brought our sins in His body up on the cross (1 Peter 2:24)

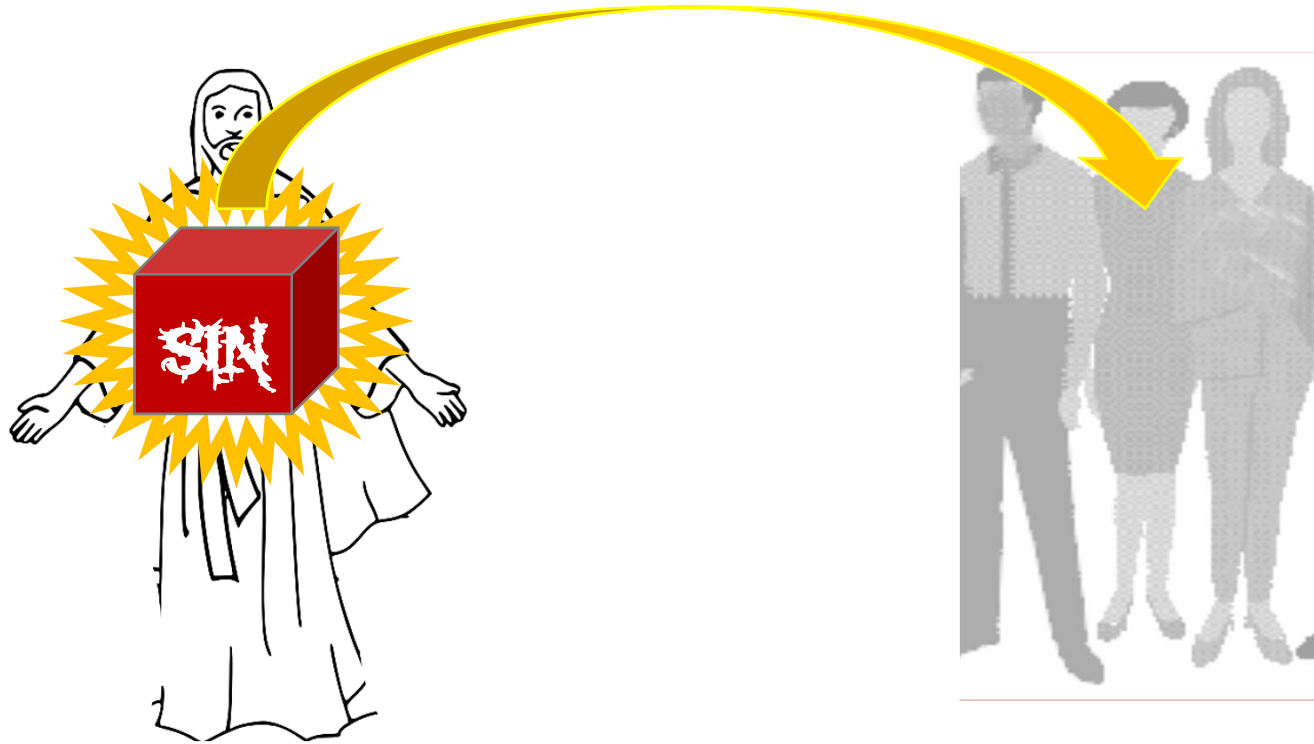
“For Christ also suffered for sins once for all time, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God (1 Peter 3:18)

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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.... so that **WE** might be made the **righteousness of God** in Him.

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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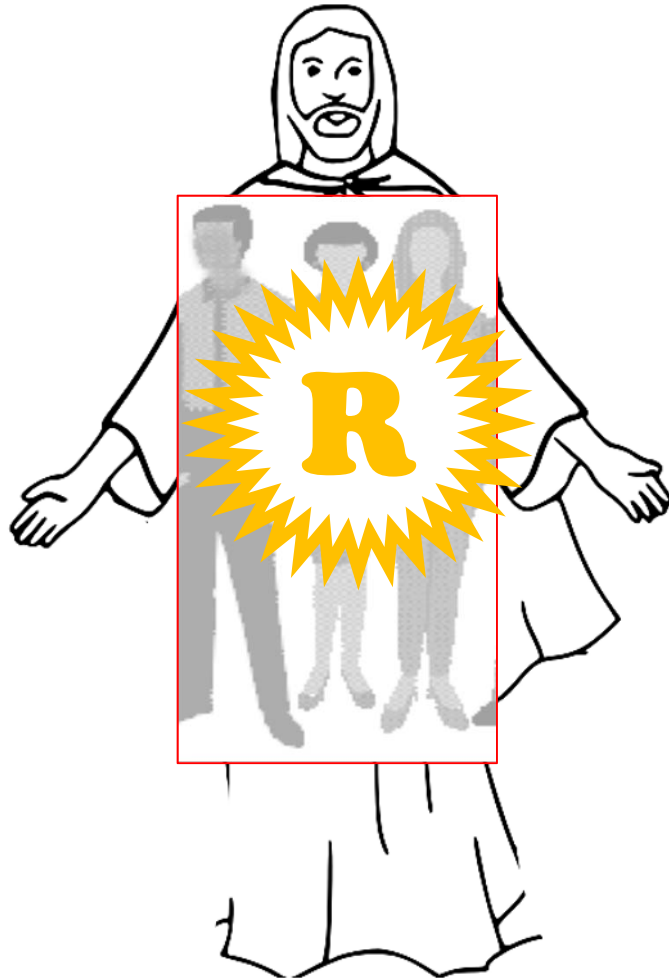


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# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## The Salvific ‘Swap’ - 2 Corinths 5:21



“We do not simply have  
righteousness from God, **WE**  
**ARE** the righteousness of God  
as a result of **being in Christ**.  
We are given his righteousness  
only as we are in him.”

[NAC]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## We are PART of HIM now – “in Him” and “His body”

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he also will deny us;

if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself.

[2 Timothy 2:11-13]

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“Paul often taught that all believers have been crucified with Christ (Gal 2:20; 5:24).

Thus when he says if **we have died with Christ**, he is referring to something that is a **past reality** for all believers. **All who’ve died with Christ** shall also live with Him.

Note the future tense here. While all believers already have eternal life (Eph 2:5), we are not currently living with Jesus in His kingdom. That is yet future. But, as Paul indicates here, it is guaranteed (cf. 1 Thess 5:10)” [GNTC]

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Verse 12 is a key eternal rewards verse.

In v 10 Paul spoke of his own endurance. Now, using the same Greek verb, he says:

*If we endure, we shall also **reign** with Him.*

Note that unlike vv 11 and 13, the promise of **ruling** with Christ is conditioned upon something we must do.

The second half of v 12 is antithetically parallel to the first half. **If we deny Him**, that is, if we fail to endure in our confession of Christ, then He will also **deny us the privilege of reigning with Him**. Paul is interpreting Matt 10:32–33 for us here. [GNTC]



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*“If we are faithless, He will remain faithful* speaks not of the apostate, but of a true child of God who nevertheless proves unfaithful (cf. 2 Tim. 1:15).

**Christ cannot disown Himself**; therefore He will **not deny even unprofitable members of His own body.**

True children of God cannot become something other than children, even when disobedient and weak.

Christ’s faithfulness to Christians is **not** contingent on their faithfulness to Him.” [BKC]

# Resurrection Sunday – 2023

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## So much more than simple Mercy / Forgiveness

### Difference between **MERCY** and **GRACE**

- **Mercy** – a pardon from prison, walks out of the gate a free person, allowed to start again from zero
- **Grace** – a pardon (as above) but a limo meets him at the gate, telling him he has been adopted by the world's richest person, and heir of unimaginable wealth!
- **Mercy** – having a staggering debt load, with collection agencies after you, and then the creditors all forgive the debt (like in bankruptcy)—you are out of debt and free to try to rebuild
- **Grace** – having someone PAY all the debts off, then adopt you as a child of the world's richest person – with a huge bank account already set up for you.

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