

All Things Old

God created a perfect world. He pronounced it GOOD! Everything was perfect until Adam & Eve chose to violate God's command. Their disobedience was catastrophic. When they sinned, their fellowship with God was broken and death and decay entered into the world.

2

All Things Old

We are fallen creatures, and because we all have sinned, we are under the death penalty. We grow old, we are sick, and we will eventually die. There is nothing we can do in our own selves to remove the curse of death from our lives.

3

All Things Old

God stepped in to do what we could not.

We celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, but He came to be our Savior. He lived a sinless life and was nailed to the cross as the perfect sacrifice for our sins. He died and was placed into a tomb, but that was not the end of the story!

4

A Change of Events

The world and the Jewish religious leaders thought they had won. Jesus was dead. His controversial teachings had been officially renounced. All this was manipulated behind the scenes by Satan who was fighting God for control of Creation. I am certain that many rejoiced while Jesus' followers were scattered and devastated.

5

A Change of Events

Jesus had tried to tell the disciples that He was going to Jerusalem to die, but this did not fit into their hopes and expectations so they discarded it. Jesus had also told them that He would rise from the dead the third day. The religious leaders had understood His prediction and had a Roman guard posted at the tomb.

6

A Change of Events

If the religious and political leaders had realized who they were dealing with, they would have realized how futile their efforts were to keep Jesus in the grave. Just as Jesus had predicted, He was restored to life on the third day. There was an earthquake and the stone covering the tomb was rolled away. This was not to let Jesus out, but to let the world see that there was “NoBody” in the tomb.

7

A Change of Events

Jesus has risen from the dead. Life conquering death. Hope triumphing over loss and despair. The curse for sin was paid. The old is passing away, and Jesus has ushered in something New for those who choose to accept His payment for their sins and follow Him!

8

All Things New

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

This morning I would like to focus on how the Resurrection of Jesus made all things new. This is not an inclusive list. You could dedicate the rest of your life to this study and not exhaust all that He has done for us.

9

All Things New - Perspective

We need to pause and think about what happened to the disciples. They had been afraid (locked in the upper room), they had lost their faith (It was the women who went to the tomb and only 2 disciples were willing to check out their story). Some had simply walked away and discovered that Jesus was walking with them. What caused them to change their perspective? What was so powerful that they were willing to risk everything including their lives to spread the Gospel?

It was the power of the Resurrection!

10

All Things New - Perspective

God has given us a new perspective as well. How are you investing your life? We are encouraged not to store up our treasures here on earth. We only have those for this short life time. We now have a larger perspective with eternity in view. Our treasures that are stored there will last for all eternity! The greatest treasure is people. Just like the disciples who went out into the world to rescue the lost, we are to do the same.

11

All Things New - Position

Jesus gave the Disciples a new position – they became Apostles and responsible for spreading and maintaining the new born church. This was only possible because of a greater change in position. Though they had followed Jesus, the payment for their sins had not been made.

They were still under the Old Testament Economy. In the Resurrection, Jesus moved from death to life. We who are identified with Him do the same – this is the picture of baptism.

12

All Things New - Relationship

The Disciple's relationship with Jesus and each other was made new by the Resurrection. They have been followers of Jesus, but now they entered into God's family. The wall of sin that had separated them from the Father was broken down so they could boldly enter into God's presence crying out Abba Father (Daddy).

We also share this relationship. We are no longer alone, we have entered into this New Relationship that **NOTHING** can take from us!

13

All Things New - Essence

The disciples had been alone. Jesus appeared numerous times to them after the Resurrection, but then He ascended into Heaven. They were told to remain in Jerusalem until they had received Power. That came on Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended upon them. Like the disciples, we also receive the New Essence of the Holy Spirit when we accept Jesus' offer of salvation. We now have a new nature and power to have our lives transformed back into God's image!

14

All Things New - Community

The followers of Christ entered into a New Community of believers we know as the Church. We are brothers and sisters in Christ and make up His Body here on Earth. We are much more than just a group of friends who gather together to enjoy each others company. We work together as His Body to do His Work and Will here in our community. Some day we will gather before His throne as part of ultimate church that spans time and geography.

15

All Things New - Hope

The women who came to the tomb were sad. Their leader, the one whom they loved had been crucified. They discovered an empty tomb and were distressed fearing that someone had moved the body.

Their despair soon turned to Hope as they were confronted by an angel who told them He had Risen from the dead. Joy filled their hearts and their hope was rekindled. They were given a Hope of seeing Jesus, His coming kingdom, and living forever in the presence of God.

16

All Things New - Future

Our Old Life is fading away. We now have a New Future. Jesus took the wrath for our sins and the debt has been paid in full! The effects of the curse will be removed. We have a future where we will be with our loved ones in Christ who have gone before and we will never be separated again. The best part is we will be in the presence of our Savior, who bore our sin so we could live.

The future is so extraordinary that our brains cannot comprehend it and we have it all because Jesus Died and Rose Again. We owe Him everything!

17

So What ...

What is your focus? Are you looking forward or living life in the rearview mirror?

You can attempt to cling to the past, but it is fading away. Why spend so much time trying to get what you cannot keep?

Lets take this day and celebrate Christ's death and resurrection. He did this so we can have the NEW. Lets keep our focus there!