

The Resurrection History's Turning Point

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Luke 18:31-34 (NKJV)

³¹ Then He took the twelve aside and said to them, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. ³² For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. ³³ They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." ³⁴ But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken.

Thankfully the story did not end with Jesus in the grave. On the third day, after His crucifixion, He was raised from the dead and on numerous occasions afterwards He appeared to His disciples and to hundreds of others; and forty days after the resurrection Jesus ascended into Heaven.

Let's consider every step of this amazing episode:

1. The Redemption Plan was predicted 700 years before Christ

- God never forgets His plan for us, if He promised it, He will fulfil it!
- Generations come and go like waves, but His Words will never fail

Isaiah 53:4-5(NIV)

⁴ Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

2. God is immutable and so is His Plan for saving mankind

- He promised it and He fulfilled it. No matter what happens He is still God
- That was not an easy task for Him sending His only Son for us

Romans 8:32 (NKJV)

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

3. By His Promise, He also sent the Holy Spirit after the Ascension

- Ten days after Jesus' ascension, the Holy Spirit descended on His followers
- The church was born exactly on the day of Pentecost, the 50th day after the resurrection

Acts 2:1-4 (NKJV)

¹ When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them divided

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tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

From then on, the Good News of Jesus spread rapidly. This episode of the growth and expansion of the church has not yet ended. It is an episode in which we have to play our part. Who is willing to write Acts chapter 29?