

## He is Risen!

[SNT – 0805, Apr. 18, 1976, [https://archive.org/details/HelsRisen\\_42](https://archive.org/details/HelsRisen_42) ]

Dr. V. P. Wierwille

Take your Bibles tonight please and go to the Gospel of Matthew...

You know that the most monumental event in all history was the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Great men have lived and died, the only one, in all the history of mankind that ever rose again from the dead: The Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ has always been a stumbling block for the unbelievers and will continue to be so, but for those of us who know him, the great reality of his divine presence, the Resurrection is still the most monumental event in the history of all time.

The Gospel of Matthew in the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter and in the 31<sup>th</sup> verse:

[Mt. 26:31-33](#)

[Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad. But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee. Peter answered and said unto him, Though all \*men\* shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.](#)

That usage in the word regarding the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ is singularly significant, Jesus had just told them that the shepherd will be smitten and that the sheep Israel, the followers of the lord Jesus Christ will be scattered abroad and that after he's risen he'd go into Galilee but that didn't ring a bell with Peter whatsoever, he could understand the smiting but he couldn't understand the Resurrection, the 'risen again', that's why he said: "Though all *men* shall be offended", he said, "I never be offended". He never discussed the Resurrection he only discussed the matter of the shepherd being smitten because he was so far, even beyond their minds that God will raise him from the dead. That, it was just so far out that somehow or other men like Peter who had been with him for a period of time as an Apostle just could not see the greatness of that risen Lord.

It is interesting that also in the 27<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Gospel of Matthew at the time of the death of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the people that passed by and watched him hanging said according to verse 40:

[Mt 27:40: ...Thou that destroyest the temple...](#)

This is some of the stuff that was cast in the teeth of Jesus

[Mt 27:40: ...Thou that destroyest the temple, and buildest \*it\* in three days...](#)

Yeah, what a counterfeit you are... what a bunch of baloney... what a bunch of hot air... here you are hanging on the cross, ha, you said you'll destroy the Temple... you know it took hundreds and hundreds of years to build it... They were thinking of the physical Temple in Jerusalem, when Jesus had spoken about his body.

And they said, well, you said that you'll going to destroy the Temple and in three days you are going to build it... huh... save thyself, save yourself!

[Mt 27:40: ...save thyself. If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross.](#)

What a tremendous thing! You see, he could have walked out of that cross free and post-paid, haha... he was God's only begotten son it says:

[2Cor 5:21: For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.](#)

He that knew no sin became sin that we might become the righteousness of God in him.

[Jn 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.](#)

God so loved that He gave! And Jesus Christ so loved God that he gave! And when he was hanging on that cross, just imagine his critics, the 'deprogrammers' around pushing that stuff into his teeth: uh, you said you are going to build the Temple, ah, yeah, who do you think you are? "If thou be the Son of God, come down from the cross" Now, then may have been very inaccurate and very devilish but they were right about one thing: he was the son of God!

They knew he wasn't God, lord if they've thought about God... ha... they even didn't made it to the cross... they'd jerked his toenails off his toes and his fingernails off his fingers, and uproot his hair off his head... chopped his throat... but they said, 'you said you are the son of God', if you are the 'the son of God' you are to be able to save yourself, you are 'the son of God', come down off of that cross! Hahaaa, look at verse 43...

The Priest, the Scribes, the Elders...

[Mt 27:43: He trusted in God; let him deliver him now, if he will have him...](#)

Why? Because it was a disgrace to be crucified, an absolute disgrace to hang on a cross... he said he was 'the son of God', now they say, o.k., if God will have you, come on, get down of that cross, come on! Heh, let God deliver him, you know, he's talking about God all the time, God his Father, he His son, you are talking about God, God will take care of you!

Here you are, hanging on a cross, where is your God? Where is your God? Haha...

...they tell me ...on Good Friday God is dead...

Holy smokes... that's pretty close to Headquarters, I think God is dead there, isn't dead here baby! That's right, he may be dead two miles from here, I don't know. But I want to tell you, He's not dead at "The Way International" headquarters. Out God is a living reality, and our God is the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. That's right:

[Mt 27:43: ...for he said, I am the Son of God.](#)

He's with the Scribes, the Priests, the Elders, the High Priests, the rest of them... again, they knew he was not God, they knew he was what? 'The son of God', they didn't believe it but that's what he said he was. He was 'the son of God'. Had he ever said he was God, oh my goodness... that's so far...

And the climax of the whole thing... there was one man there, there was a man there who had to be there because of his position with the army, and he was nobody's fool, he was a Centurion, a man who was a head of a hundred top-notch men, and he, he was a Roman, the Romans didn't believe in the true God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was his job to see that the execution was accomplished.

And this Centurion stood there while they were crucifying the Lord Jesus Christ and he stayed around, until verse 54 had this fantastic truth:

[Mt 27:54: Now when the centurion, and they that were with him...](#)

The other soldiers.

[Mt 27:54: ...watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.](#)

Oh boy oh boy, what a record! They did not for one minute said "this was God", because had it been God, then God would had died on the cross!

God did not die but it was His wonderful son, and that Centurion class, had to have a... boy he had to get hit right between the eye balls with a ball bat or something to see that... that Centurion!

Had Peter have said that it wouldn't have been so fantastic, but for that Centurion to say what he said that took a lot of more guts than for any of you to say that Jesus Christ was the son of God and not God... what a fantastic thing! [Then Dr. Wierwille says that he had a half an hour class through the phone with believers of Florida] Boy oh boy what a stand he [the Centurion] took!

Three days later, God raised him! That's when the 28<sup>th</sup> chapter becomes so dynamically real.

[Mt 28:1: In the end of the sabbath...](#)

After the Sabbath the text reads, after the weekly Sabbath.

[Mt 28:1: ...as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.](#)

[Mt 28:2: And, behold, there was a great earthquake...](#)

One of the oldest texts reads: "for there had been a great earthquake". Well, we have a couple of them, one back there that sort of affected the Centurion, and another one that affected the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ...

[Mt 28:2: ...for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.](#)

Ha-ha... a big stone worked him out so he sat down to rest. The stone was never in front of the door... the stone was on top of the opening. The sepulcher was covered with the stone and this record reads in the original exactly like in the English only sometimes is difficult to understand what it says...

And that is, this angel of the Lord came down and, here is the sepulcher, here is the stone, and the angel of the Lord came and rolled the stone from the door, he just didn't rolled out so Jesus

could just squeeze up an out. Ha-ha-ha... when he moved, he moved! He rolled that stone away that all the critics that came that day couldn't say: "men had rolled it away", God by his angel had rolled it away! And in addition he sat on it. Now, who's going to move that stone! Well, that's a heavy one sitting on it. Pretty heavy stone to being with... sat on it because as far God was concerned the stone was rolled away, Resurrection was all done! Because with the rolling of the stone Christ arose, that's why the angel sat on it. It's finished, the Resurrection is done! Christ has risen!

[Mt 28:4-5](#)

[And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead \*men\*.  
And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye...](#)

Look at the greatness of that passage: The first message to the women was "Fear not"! ...it's in The Word so many, many times. The one thing the Adversary always wants is to get you full of fear: fear about tomorrow, fear about the job, fear about the world situation, fear about everything, just get you full of fear, so that you no longer could believe that God is your sufficiency! That Jesus came that you may have life more than abundantly! Than in Christ Jesus I'm more than a conqueror!

Jesus Christ had been crucified and the Adversary's done everything he could to bring fear...

When those women arrived in what we know as the 'Easter Sunday morning', the angel the first thing that he said to those beautiful women was: "fear not"! Boy oh boy what a message!

[Mt 28:5-6](#)

[...for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.](#)

[He is not here: for he is risen...](#)

And I can see their eye balls (of those women), bigger... what do you mean? Raised?

[Mt 28:6b: ...as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.](#)

They looked and what they saw blew their minds. That wrapping was all intact, still laying there... a little spot for the nose... The napkin that had covered it had been neatly folded, laid up in a corner of the sepulcher, there it was! Nothing in it. Boy, there are not describing words to describe that in any vocabulary because it was an experience that none of us have had, and therefore it's just not as real to us as it would be if we had seen the wrappings, and the napkin, but nobody in the wrappings!

It's always something, so simple. I got a casket, has a man in it, folded... Come next time, opened, night guards, everybody there, I opened, you look at it, and there's nothing in, it think it sinks in you wouldn't it?

Boy and those people where as human as you are... just imagine the electrifying reality of that occasion people! With the best of your ability to think it through! He said, "he's not here, he is risen!". He is risen! "[See the place](#)"!

[Mt 28:7: And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you.](#)

What a tremendous reality!

In the book of Romans, chapter 8<sup>th</sup> it says in verse 34:

**Rom 8:34: Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.**

The risen ascended Christ makes intercession for the believer, us! Born again believers, the Church!

Golly that's wonderful that somebody like that is interceding for! Then why you feel so badly day after day when you ask for a little bit of intercession. It tells you in the Word of God that he is already interceding for you. Accept his intercession, walk with the greatness of God for you in the great love of God in Christ Jesus!

Look at:

**1Cor 15:12: Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?**

They had a problem back then, in a time Paul by divine revelation wrote to the Church that was messed up in Corinth. Some of the people were saying that Jesus Christ never rose from the dead, sounds like God had this written this afternoon, some people still say it.

I think it was a year ago that a periodical did an analysis of the Ministers around the U.S. who believed in The Return of Christ, was it a high percent that never believed that he'll come back? Even if it was a 1% that didn't believe it, they shouldn't be standing at the pulpit! But if the percent is higher... what do you think the people is going to believe? That's what they are going to believe.

But The Word says he's coming back! That settles it! And even if he doesn't come back, I'll be the happiest man that had ever lived, but if you don't believe that he's coming back, you'll be miserable...

And he is coming back! And some cataclysmic things are going to occur because man does not regard God's actions neither does facilitate them.

When the fullness of time was come God sent his son in the beginning, when the fullness of time will come again, sooner he's coming back! And you haven't had a thing to do with it, I haven't had a thing to do with it, your believing doesn't substantiate it, nor with my unbelief terminate it.

He's coming when God's will is ready, men haven't a lousy thing of saying. That's right.

And whether they preach and believe makes no difference, he's still coming!

In Corinth that day, he said in verse 13:

**1Cor 15:13-20**

**But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:  
And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith [believing] is also vain.**

Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable.

But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept.

He is risen! And any man or woman can have the proof of the resurrected Christ in his life if he wants to. If he or she doesn't want to then they can just go dilly dally, do as they please.

But there is no reason for any man or woman of not having the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in their lives, and the evidence and the manifestation in concretion which proves the Resurrection!

He is risen! Not because you have changed your life, because I know a lot of people who doesn't believe in the Lord Jesus Christ who change their lives, who change their way of living.

I know a lot of people who had never accepted the Lord Jesus Christ who don't even believe in him as God's only begotten son who believe he was a fine prophet, some who believe that he was just one more prophet among the rest of the prophets. They've changed their lives, the walk sense-knowledge wise real nicely but that's not what makes you a Christian.

What makes you a Christian is the acceptance of the Resurrected Christ! God raised him, he's seated at the right hand of the Father and on the day of Pentecost, it says:

Acts 2:33b: ...having received of the Father the promise of the holy spirit, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

Col 1:27b ...which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

The Christ could never have been in you, the hope of glory, unless God had raised him. In:

Rom 10:9: That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

You see how central the Resurrection is?

On top of most religions in America we have a cross, on most religious places on the inside, a cross. The cross is symbolic of death, the open tomb is symbolic of the Resurrected Christ and we are not saved in his death, we are saved in his Resurrection! "Confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead"!

You see why the Resurrection has always been the laughingstock of the unbeliever?

Why it's the most monumental event in all history?

When you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe God raised him from the death you have Christ in you the hope of glory! You couldn't have the Christ in you the hope of glory if God hadn't raised him! And what was sent from heaven, that which you now hear and see, you couldn't have it. But if he did what he said he did, then you can have it and the way to find out is... to come over here and take it!

The way to find out if you have Christ in you the hope of glory is to believe what the Word says and to speak in tongues! And when you speak in tongues, that's the external manifestation of the internal reality within you of Christ in you the hope of glory! And that can only be because God raised him.

Men, what a day, what a time to be alive, what a wonderful time to live to have the freedom to hold forth the wonderful Word of God, to talk about the Resurrected Christ, the power that is in him, for there's power on that name!

Fear not!

[Col 3:1a: If ye then be risen with Christ...](#)

Because he arose, according to Colossians we have guaranteed the risen of us, Corinthians already gave us this a while ago, here is a reality of truth again in Colossians, we are already risen in Christ, already seated in the heavenlies it says, if you are born again, if we are, it says,

[Col 3:1b: ...seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.](#)

Seek those things above!

...my God, if Jesus Christ is God he must be beside himself... [Dr. Wierwille talks about a "Way Productions" puppet show which includes this line.]

Every man has his own mind, has his own freedom. Men can make up their own minds and do what The Word says, or make up his mind not to do it. One gets the results of The Word the other gets the consequences...

[Note: Then Dr. Wierwille quotes the next old poem from John Oxenham called Opportunity:]

"To every man there openeth

A way, and ways, and a way.

And the high soul climbs the high way,

And the low soul gropes the low;

And in between, on the misty flats,

The rest drift to and fro.

But to every man there openeth

A high way and a low;

And every man decideth

The way his soul shall go."

For those of us who believe God's Word, a high road for life, and what a difference it makes.  
Why?

[Jn 3:16: For God so loved the world, that he gave...](#)

And as John says this we remember... [Then Dr. Wierwille reads the end of the poem by Frederick M. Lehman entitled The Love of God, of which the first strophes are given here inside brackets:

The love of God is greater far  
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;  
It goes beyond the highest star,  
And reaches to the lowest hell;  
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,  
God gave His Son to win;  
His erring child He reconciled,  
And pardoned from his sin.

Refrain:

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure!  
How measureless and strong!  
It shall forevermore endure—  
The saints' and angels' song.

When hoary time shall pass away,  
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,  
When men who here refuse to pray,  
On rocks and hills and mountains call,  
God's love so sure, shall still endure,  
All measureless and strong;  
Redeeming grace to Adam's race—  
The saints' and angels' song.]  
"Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
And were the skies of parchment made,  
Were every stalk on earth a quill,  
And every man a scribe by trade;

To write the love of God above

Would drain the ocean dry;

Nor could the scroll contain the whole,

Though stretched from sky to sky.”

Yes, he is risen! Well, there are a lot of things that I don't know about life, but there is one thing I know, he is risen! That I know beyond a shadow of a doubt! He is risen! By, what a message to carry in our day and time!

[Then, Dr. Wierwille asks the audience, he is, what? And keeps repeating until they repeat it loudly! Because the first times the answer is bland.]

Believe it and walk, “think those things which are above where Christ sits at the right hand of God”. Be not entangled in a yoke of bondage... walk in the freedom of our deliverer! “Be not afraid for I am the Lord thy God that will succor thee and strengthen thee” [Is. 41:10] Ain't that wonderful?

Father I thank you for the greatness of your Word... thank you for your love, thank you for the dynamic reality of your divine presence, thank you Father for just how beautifully and simply you teach your Word to your people, that they really know that is your Word, and through that Word we can have a knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and his love. Thank you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the privilege of sharing my heart from the Word with your people this night in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.