

# ***Personal/ Small Group Sermon Study***

## **Life Is All About Jesus**

**April 1, 2018 A.D.**

**Resurrection Sunday**

Jesus was crucified, dead, and buried. On the third day, He rose from the dead to confirm for both time and eternity that you can live forever (and avoid the punishment of hell) if you acknowledge Jesus as your Savior and Lord.

### **Read Isaiah 9:6 – 7**

1. This prophecy about the coming of the Savior for the people of Israel was written about 700 B.C. What words from these verses refer to the first coming of Jesus to earth? What words from these verses refer to the second coming of Jesus? Please explain the reasons for your answers.

### **Read Matthew 16:13 – 20**

2. In your opinion, what enabled Peter to correctly identify Jesus as the “Christ” (which is the Greek word for the Hebrew word “Messiah”)? At this point in time, did Peter know the meaning of the word “church”? Was Peter aware that there would be a “second coming” of Jesus? Please explain your answers.

### **Read Matthew 16:21 – 23**

3. Why did Jesus offer the “explanation” which is stated in v. 21? Based on verse 22, did Peter understand verse 21? Why did Jesus say what he said in verse 23? Please explain your answers.

### **Read Hebrews 9:11 – 15; 22**

4. Prior to the resurrection of Jesus, did Peter understand that Jesus came to die as “the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world”? (see John 1:29) Please explain your answer.

### **Read Luke 1:34 – 38**

5. Was Jesus human? Was Jesus (and is Jesus) the Son of God? As a human, was it possible for Jesus to sin? As the Son of God, was it possible for Jesus to live a sinless life? If Jesus lived a sinless life, is Jesus thereby qualified (as an innocent man) to voluntarily die as a substitute in your place to pay the penalty for your sin on your behalf? Please explain your answers.

6. If Jesus took your place on the cross, and if Jesus died to pay the penalty for your sins, can God forgive you and allow you to enter into heaven if you choose to deny that Jesus was innocent, sinless, and qualified to be your Savior (i.e. your sin substitute)? Please explain your answer.

**Read Isaiah 53:4 – 6 and 1 John 1:8 – 10**

7. Can God forgive you of your sins (and can God grant to you a pardon from the death penalty which you deserve for committing those sins) if you claim that you (a) are not a sinner and/or (b) have no need to be forgiven by God? Please explain your answer.

**Read 1 John 2:1 – 2**

8. Please analyze, critique, and discuss this statement: “The death of Jesus was sufficient to pay in full the penalty and the sin-debt (which require the punishment of hell) for every person who has ever lived. However, the forgiveness of God (payment of the sin debt) is efficient and effective only for those who confess their sins and ask God for forgiveness through their personal faith in what Christ did for them on the cross.”

**Read Romans 10:8 – 13**

9. Does forgiveness of your sin by God require both (a) a verbal confession that Jesus is Lord and (b) belief in the bodily resurrection of Jesus? Please explain.

**Read John 3:16 – 18**

10. Have all of the sins of all mankind been forgiven because of the death of Christ on the cross? Please explain your answer.
11. Will hell be full of people whose sins have been forgiven (but who have failed to confess that they have sinned against God and/or who have not confessed Jesus as Lord)? Please explain your answer.

**Read John 3:19 – 21**

12. Why do people refuse to (a) acknowledge Jesus as their Lord and/or (b) ask God for forgiveness?

**Consider:** On the cross, Jesus paid in full the penalty for your sin against God. Will you confess that Jesus is your Lord and Savior so that you may have eternal life with God for both now and in heaven? Or, will you die and suffer the punishment of hell because you have rejected the forgiveness of God which is granted through faith in Jesus? The choice is yours – and yours alone. “You think about that.” Amen.