

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Signs on Believers' Highway, Lesson 35

Lesson Title: Jesus Claims He Will Rise from The Dead

Take Home Point: Jesus proves he is God by rising from the dead.

Warm-Up:

"[The United States] will land a man on the moon and return him safely to the earth in this decade." When President Kennedy spoke these words in 1961, he was setting a goal and making a promise that seemed impossible. Many people didn't believe it could be done, and many laughed in doubt and derision. But through the tremendous efforts of thousands of people, what seemed impossible happened in July of 1969. Did the President know beyond the shadow of a doubt that it could be done? Of course not. But he believed that through the concerted effort of many people and a focused expenditure of national treasure, it was a goal within reach and worth setting. He wanted to prove something to the rest of the world about the United States of America, and he did.

Read: John 2:13-25; Romans 1:3-4

Observation (What happened?):

Why was Jesus so upset about the activities in the temple?

What was happening as a result of his miracles?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think the Jews wanted a sign from Jesus?

What do you think the disciples thought about the claim Jesus made prior to his resurrection?

Insight:

If you have ever studied religions other than Christianity, you know the writings of other religions include prophecies, stories of miracles being performed, of angels or gods delivering messages, of sacrifices and acts of great mercy, wisdom, and love. But there is one fundamental event that separates Jesus Christ from all other teachers, prophets, and religious leaders – his resurrection. It is unique. Other religions may have anecdotes of something similar, but none other takes a God/man, has him killed, puts him in a grave, and then brings him back to life in the sight of hundreds of people, AS HE PROMISED, while he was still alive. The death of Jesus on the cross was a not a failure to bring in an earthly kingdom, nor was restoring him to life some "Plan B" that God had to implement because "Plan A" didn't work out. As we read in today's Bible account, early in his ministry years, Jesus prophesied his death and resurrection. This was God's plan all along to pay the penalty for our sin and be restored to everlasting fellowship with him. In Matthew 28 we read the Jewish leaders knew he was alive after the cross but chose to deny it. What do you believe?

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What do you think of the claim Jesus made?

How does your life demonstrate your belief to your family, friends, co-workers, etc.?

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