

## Come Forth! – John 11:40-43

### I. The Glory of God

- a. John 11:39–42 (NASB95); <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “Remove the stone.” Martha, the sister of the deceased, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there will be a stench, for he has been *dead* four days.” <sup>40</sup> Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” <sup>41</sup> So they removed the stone. Then Jesus raised His eyes, and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. <sup>42</sup> “I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me.”
- b. Resurrection power is the glory of God
- c. I know that Jesus was returning physical life to a dead body – but that is really just an illustration for our spiritual lives
- d. John 11:23–27 (NASB95); <sup>23</sup> Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” <sup>24</sup> Martha said to Him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” <sup>25</sup> Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies, <sup>26</sup> and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” <sup>27</sup> She said to Him, “Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world.”

### II. Resurrection Power

- a. We often think of our resurrection at the last day, when the trumpet sounds – when Jesus returns on the clouds just as He departed
- b. The power of our resurrection is not looking forward to the last day – it is looking back on our immersion
- c. Romans 1:16 (ESV); For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
  - i. Our spiritual resurrection occurs at our immersion – at the reenactment of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection
  - ii. Romans 6:1–4 (ESV); <sup>1</sup> What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup> By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup> Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup> We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
  - iii. 2 Corinthians 5:16–17 (ESV); <sup>16</sup> From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
  - iv. Romans 6:5–7 (ESV); <sup>5</sup> For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup> We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup> For one who has died has been set free from sin.

- v. Romans 6:17–18 (ESV); <sup>17</sup> But thanks be to God, that you who were once slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the standard of teaching to which you were committed, <sup>18</sup> and, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.
- vi. The power of our resurrection has set us free from sin!
- vii. We are no longer the person we once were; sinful, alienated from God, and alone in the world
- viii. Our resurrection (immersion) has freed us from that life and given us a new life in heaven
- ix. Colossians 1:13–14 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- d. The power of our resurrection has not only changed who we are, but our home as well – that is resurrection power!

### III. Who am I?

- a. If the power of our resurrection has changed us, then who are we
- b. 1 Peter 2:9a (ESV); But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession,
- c. We are chosen
  - i. God chose us when He created us – “Let Us make man in Our image”
  - ii. The entirety of humankind has been chosen by God – “for God so loved the world...”
  - iii. Everyone, no matter your background, your ethnicity, your sinfulness, has the same opportunity to lay their burdens down and become part of the kingdom
  - iv. The sad reality is that very few will make the choice
  - v. Matthew 7:13–14 (ESV); <sup>13</sup> “Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>14</sup> For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.
  - vi. Sometimes we just get so caught up in the trappings of the world that we forget we are chosen
- d. We are royalty
  - i. We in America have lost the reverence and awe that royalty inspires
  - ii. But if we look to some other countries, we can see worldly royalty – Rome in the first century, England today are just a couple
  - iii. Royal – having the status of a king or queen or a member of their family
  - iv. We have been grafted into the royal family of the King and His Son
- e. We are holy
  - i. Set aside for a divine purpose, dedicated or consecrated to God
  - ii. God has given us purpose – whatever your purpose was before your became Holy, it has now changed!
  - iii. We are a people whom God has set aside to accomplish His tasks – which are dedicated and consecrated to God

f. Children of God

- i. My father was a pilot for Eastern Airlines and my mother a stewardess for Alaskan Airlines
- ii. When asked I will tell people what my father was just before he retired, a Vice President for Eastern Airlines
- iii. When asked I will tell people what my brother is currently, a Vice President for Hewlett Packard
- iv. In my mind, their physical and worldly successes somehow give me a greater status – I know it doesn't
- v. Here is my point; there is no greater status or title than being called a child of God
- vi. The almighty creator of the universe wants me as His son – and you as His sons and daughters

g. Purpose

- i. 1 Peter 2:9b (ESV); that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
- ii. Here is our purpose; our meaning – to extol, to glorify, to magnify the Father through the Son
- iii. Ephesians 2:10 (ESV); For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.
- iv. Matthew 5:16 (ESV); In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

IV. I Am

- a. Because of the resurrection power I am a child of God
- b. Because I am a child of God I am dedicated, consecrated to the work of the kingdom
- c. I am called to speak of the excellencies of God
- d. I am called to work so that others will see and glorify God
- e. This is what my resurrection has made me – this is who I am
- f. Who are you? – Let the person God created come forth!