

**More Powerful than...**  
**March 31, 2013**  
**Resurrection Sunday**

by C. Benjamin Dill

Good morning, Lighthouse!

Welcome to Resurrection Sunday!

There are two particular subjects that we read about, see up on billboards and in movies; that this world is absolutely fascinated with today:

“Faster than a speeding bullet! More powerful than a locomotive! Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound!”

"Look up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Superman!"

"Yes, it's Superman, strange visitor from another planet who came to Earth with powers and abilities far beyond those of mortal men. Superman, who can change the course of mighty rivers, bend steel in his bare hands; and who, disguised as Clark Kent, mild-mannered reporter for a great metropolitan newspaper, fights a never ending battle for truth, justice, and the American way.”

Ah, yes; POWER! The world is fascinated with power. Oh that someone (preferably someone

good) had the power to fight and defeat all this evil that surrounds us!

(As long as it's not our personal evil; that is.)

A second fascination of our world today is resurrection.

Zombies, vampires, Frankenstein; only the Lord knows how many stories, books, plays and movies have been produced over the fascination of somehow coming back from the dead.

But everyone knows it's just fiction, right? No one really has the power to change the course of mighty rivers, right? Certainly no one has ever come back from the dead; not like, "really dead"; not like three or four days, "really dead"; right?

I understand that Satan's hope in all this fiction is that the world might believe that Jesus is fiction too. For many it has been very effective. Satan would have you believe that he is fiction as well.

It has been well said that Satan's greatest achievement is convincing the world that he does not exist.

What we do not realize is that these two great fascinations of the world are really one in the same. If someone had enough power; extreme

power; unimaginable power...that person could defeat even death and live forever!

And if that unimaginable, super-powerful one could be imagined to have even more power; he could cause you to live forever as well.

Ladies and gentlemen, you can stop imagining; Jesus is real!

I can show you the place where he arrived in this world.

I can show you the water on which He walked.

I can show you hundreds of genuine historical records which document His life; both in the Bible and elsewhere.

I can show you the empty grave which could not hold Him.

And I can show you the mountain top from which He ascended literally and bodily into heaven.

I can even show you a life that has been transformed by Him personally.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, this day we are celebrating is all about power; tremendous power, awesome power; resurrection power!

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, Jesus is powerful!

(This is the place in the sermon where you are supposed to ask, “Pastor, just how powerful is Jesus?”)

(Wait for it).

Oh, I am so glad you asked!

## **I. Jesus is more powerful than the god of this world.**

*A. Jesus has defeated, is defeating and will defeat Satan.*

1. Satan thought he had won in the Garden of Eden when he tempted Eve.

2. But Jesus stepped in with a promise that in the fullness of time He would pay for their sin with His own blood; Adam and Eve are in heaven today!

3. Satan thought he had the best of Jesus in the wilderness when he tempted Him when Jesus was forty days without food.

4. But Jesus defeated Him with the Word of God.

5. Satan has a future that is drawing closer every day:

**Revelation 20:10** And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false

prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever

*B. Maybe you would like a demonstration of Jesus' power over Satan:*

**1. 2Corinthians 4:3-4**

3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

2. If you have not yet believed; truly trusted in the death, burial and the resurrection of Jesus; God Himself in the body of a man; to save you from your sins, it is because you have been blinded by the god of this world.

3. That's what all of the fiction, all the sarcasm about the Lord, all the snide innuendoes, all the marketing of so-called evolution and the so-called big bang and all the press and insinuation that says if you believe the Bible you are just an idiot and a fool; all of that is designed for one thing; to keep you blind.

4. But...as I share with you what Jesus did for you when he died in your place and rose again from the dead after three full days and three full nights in the grave; there is a power in this message that you cannot explain and you

know in your heart that the message is true;  
you are not blind anymore!

5. If you leave here lost to share Satan's fate; it is going to be by your own choice that you do so.

What was that question you asked earlier?  
("Just how powerful is Jesus?")

## **II. Jesus is more powerful than the government.**

*A. We are living in a climate in America that none of us have ever experienced before.*

1. Food and fuel costs are going out of sight.
2. Our money, if you actually have any, is quickly becoming worthless.
3. Our values are being destroyed from within; our very children are being slaughtered in the womb by the thousands.
4. Islam wants to kill us, the North Koreans want to kill us; and the Lord only knows who else.
5. And what is perhaps worse; most of America is too blind and stupid to even realize what is happening!

*B. Fear not, Jesus is still in charge!*

1. In **John 19:7-11** Jesus was brought before Pilate:

7 The Jews answered him, [Pilate] We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God.

8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid;

9 And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer.

10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?

11 Jesus answered, **Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: ...**

2. Satan and President Obama have at least one thing in common; they each have no power at all except what is given them from above.

3. What is happening is happening for a reason; America as a nation is about to face her judgment.

4. But I have good news for you: God protected those that were His in Egypt, God protected those that were His in Canaan, God protected those that were His in Sodom, God protected those that were His in Babylon and God will protect those that are His in America!

5. You had just better make sure you are one of His!

What was that question you asked earlier? (“Just how powerful is Jesus?”)

### **III. Jesus is more powerful than the grave!**

*A. Jesus suffered death on a Roman cross and three full days and three full nights sealed in a tomb; then:*

#### **1. Matthew 28:1-6**

1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher.

2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*.

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

2. Today, thousands come to see the place where the Lord lay; it is still there; about fifty yards from where He hung nailed to the cross.



*B. The proof is everywhere; dozens of historic documents place Jesus alive and with His Church over the next forty days after he was crucified.*

**1. 1Corinthians 15:1-8**

1 Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand;

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures:

5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

2. Jesus was seen of the Apostle John even later on:

**Revelation 1:17-18**

17 And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me,

saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

What was that question you asked earlier? (“Just how powerful is Jesus?”)

#### **IV. Jesus is more powerful than gravity.**

*A. Look, up in the sky...*

##### **Acts 1:7-12**

7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel;

11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey.

**B. 1Thessalonians 4:14-17**

14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.

15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

Just one more time; what was that question you asked earlier?  
("Just how powerful is Jesus?")

**V. Jesus is more powerful than your greatest sin!**

*A. Jesus did not die to help you save yourself;*

1. He died to save you all by Himself!

**2. Romans 5:19-21**

19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered, that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

21 That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

*B. Sin brought death to your spirit; it has done all it can do.*

1. **John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

## 2. **Romans 6:4-11**

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness of his* resurrection:

6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

7 For he that is dead is freed from sin.

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

3. **Romans 6:14** For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

### **In Conclusion:**

**No matter what you have done or have failed to do, Jesus is more powerful than your greatest sin!**

**He has already taken upon Himself your penalty of death; paid it in full and risen in complete victory over it.**

**All that is left for you is to simply receive it by placing your trust in him.**

Jesus said in **John 14:18-19**

18 **I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.**

19 **Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more; but ye see me: because I live, ye shall live also.**

**NOTE to Readers: If you need answers, please contact Pastor Dill by email at: [pastor@lbctx.org](mailto:pastor@lbctx.org)**

