

## Risen

*“Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen” - Matt. 28:5,6*

### Why does this matter?

- Because *we* need to be resurrected
- Not just some day, but now.
- Rom. 6:4 - *For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. (NLT)*
- Resurrected from a life of sin
- Rom. 3 diagnoses our condition:
- <sup>10</sup> As it is written: *“There is none righteous, no, not one; <sup>11</sup> There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. <sup>12</sup> They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”*
  - Not only have we done bad, we have failed to do good, that is, to seek after God, to live lives that are ‘profitable’ to His purposes.
- Sin is pictured in the Old Testament disease of leprosy, it destroys us by degrees and alienates us from others.
- Jesus declared His mission in Luke 4:18
- <sup>18</sup> *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; <sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”*
  - Purpose of miracles – not just physical, but more importantly, spiritual healing.

### Why don't we respond?

- The Pharisees and Lazarus!
- Because we are spiritually dead – even religious people.
- We are ‘alive’ to either sin or God.
  - Rom. 6:11 - *In the same way, you should see yourselves as being dead to the power of sin and alive with God through Christ Jesus. (NCV)*
  - One or the other is our master, and we respond to that voice.
- *“Jesus did not come to make bad people good, but to make dead people alive.”*

### How do we respond?

- Josh McDowell – not like most people
- By ‘hearing His voice’
- John 5:24,25 <sup>24</sup> *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. <sup>25</sup> Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.*
- Why Muslims are now coming to the Lord
  - We may not get to see the Lord (visions) but we can and will hear the Lord. Our response determines our destiny.

