

# Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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## The Life Changing Moment

(Michael Baker)

**D**o you remember a day that changed your life forever? Perhaps you received a well-deserved promotion at work. It could have been the day that you and your spouse became one in holy matrimony. Maybe it was the day that you and your spouse brought children into this world. We tend to remember significant moments that change our lives for the better. While all of these life changing events mean something to us personally, there is one action that changed everything for the better. It was Jesus' resurrection from the grave. This event took place the moment an angel told Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, “*He is not here, for He is risen*” in *Matthew 28:6*.

Jesus' resurrection immediately altered the way in which we are to serve God. Since Jesus lives, He serves as our High Priest to “*make intercession for us*” *Hebrews 7:25*. No longer must we rely on priests to offer sacrifices daily for our sins. He put away the Old Law that “*was contrary to us*” and “*nailed it the cross.*” *Colossians 2:14*. The Old Law also honed in on the importance of many physical specifications in worship to God. Everything, from the requirements of priest, to the three annual trips required of all

males, is different after His resurrection. *John 4:24* tells us we now worship God “*in spirit and in truth,*” for we no longer have to sojourn to the Temple to obey God's requirements for worship. We now worship Him in our hearts.

Christ's resurrection confirms that our faith is not in vain. In *John 7:5* the text reveals that “*even His brothers did not believe in Him.*” Despite Jesus' miracles, His own fleshly family did not believe in Him for some time. But notice in *Acts 1:14*, after He ascended into Heaven, the brothers are gathered with the other disciples. What took place that warranted this drastic change in their belief? They saw Jesus after being raised from the dead. This miracle changed the faith of these brothers, and it is recorded to ground our faith as well, *John 20:30-31*.

Christ being raised from the grave allows Christians to live looking toward the hope of eternal life. After Jesus was crucified and raised, He spent many days on earth before He ascended to His throne at the right hand of God. During these days, He “*presented Himself alive... by many infallible proofs.*” *Acts 1:3*. Jesus confirmed without a doubt that He

was the same man who died and was buried, to show that He conquered death, and fulfilled the many prophecies He made to His apostles. We now can have full confidence of being raised in glorified bodies after death, since Jesus is “*the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep*” *1 Corinthians 15:20*. We can look past the sadness of death knowing that those who are faithful to the Gospel's message will find “*victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*” *1 Corinthians 15:57*. Since we have that hope girded about us, we can look forward to spending eternity with God our Father in Heaven. Death is not the end for the Christian, but rather the beginning.

Ask yourself this, has the resurrection of Jesus changed your life? Those who do not obey the Gospel of Christ are living in a way that shows His resurrection has not impacted their lives. Begin living a life by following the Gospel to lay hold of eternal life. Jesus changed the way we serve God by His death. The Old Law ended and therefore we can have confidence knowing that our service is acceptable to God. The Christian's life is changed, not having to fear death, but looking forward to a glorious reunion with God our Father. May this hope fill our lives.