

d. Then John makes sure we understand it very specifically.

➤ 1 John 3:17

ii. “Life is about the dash.” Not anymore!

B. The resurrection changes how I travel because this new destination gives us a unique super power. (Rom. 8:35-39)

LIVE THE STORY

The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.

- What does “Easter” make possible that was never possible before? Explain.
- In what sense is death bigger than the grave? How does the Barth quote (pg. 1) describe it? How does that fit with your past or present experience?
- In what sense does the resurrection change everything about how we experience even the difficulties of life?
- In what way *should* (dare I say, *must*) the resurrection change how we live our lives?
- How does the Spirit in us change our lives even when we suffer?
- What does 1 John 3:14 say about how the resurrection should change how we live? Explain the connection between the resurrection and that changed life.
- What is needed for anyone to gain the benefit of the resurrection?

How the Resurrection Changes the Journey

Easter 2018

Jerry Cisar — Easter, April 1, 2018

Introduction: Adding a New Destination

- A. Prior to Easter, our lives really had only had one destination.

- B. Death is where Easter morning begins, but not where it ends!
 - i. Acts 2:23-24
 - ii. Acts 3:15
 - iii. Acts 10:39-40
 - iv. Acts 13:29-30

I. The Destination of Death

A. Death is much bigger than simply the grave.

Karl Barth: “[Death] is the great ‘no’, the shadow that hangs over our human life and accompanies all its movements. It is the judgment which reads: ‘You, your life or what you think is life, has no meaning ... and ... cannot last! Your life is rejected life!’”

B. The shadow that hangs over our human life declaring “no”.

C. Apart from the resurrection, our lives have no meaning.

D. "Your life is rejected life"

- i. The gnawing sense that we are unacceptable to God
- ii. We are *prone* to do what we know to be wrong.

E. The destination transforms the journey.

iii. *"For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all."* (2 Cor 4:17 NIV)

C. Your life no longer has a shadow that hangs over declaring "no"; it has a sign declaring, "yes."

i. Romans 6:23

II. The Stops on the Journey Remain the Same

A. To be clear:

i. Some stops change.

ii. Many stops don't change.

iii. How we process those stops is transformed entirely.

B. The purpose of "the stops" is completely transformed.

i. "Now if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness." (Rom. 8:10 CSB)

ii. *"And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."* (Rom. 8:11 NIV)

ii. Your life is no longer rejected, for your guilt is erased and your shame has been washed away.

D. The destination transforms the journey by changing what each event produces in you—life, not death.

III. How We Travel is Entirely Transformed

A. *We know ... because we love each other.* (1 John 3:14)

i. We've already been raised. John 5:24

a) Romans 6:3-5

b) The stops may remain the same, but our life is changed.

c) What is *love*? (1 John 3:16)