## SERMON REFLECTIONS

### The Judge Who Is Our Saviour

Romans 6:4, Matthew 26:64, Acts 17:31 | 8 June 2025 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

### **Reflection Questions**

1. "On the third day He rose <u>again</u> from the dead ..."

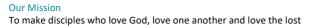
When the Apostles Creed says Jesus rose <u>again</u> from the dead, it does not mean Jesus died twice and rose twice. It is a language translation issue. The Apostles' Creed in old Latin translated into English: "again" means "back" or "anew", not "once more" – so it means "He rose back from the dead".

"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins." (1 Corinthians 15:17) Since the resurrection of Christ is of utmost importance, how can you prove (to a pre-believer) that Christ did rise from the dead? Perhaps do an internet/AI search and discuss the proofs raised.

- 2. The bodily resurrection of Jesus is deeply connected to the core ideas of:
  - The defeat of death
  - The validation of the physical world as good
  - The promise of future resurrection of humanity

#### Discuss these three areas of importance to our Christian faith. What does it mean for you (personally)? Does it affect you in any way on how you live?

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3. "He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty ..."

How does Jesus' victory over death, and in fact now reigning with the Father, give me/us/my friends hope in the midst of struggles, loss or fears? Consider Ephesians 1:20-22, 2:6-7 and Hebrews 7:25.

Our Lord Jesus is our main Intercessor, and He has also called us to intercede for others (1 Timothy 2:1-2).

Have you interceded for someone you know, and are there any biblical principles regarding intercession? At this point, take time to intercede – whether for someone you know, or for people facing challenges/difficulties (perhaps people who are suffering).

### 4. "... from there He will come to judge the living and the dead."

Knowing that the world in its current form will one day end (and in fact some Christian leaders are saying that the signs foretold in the Bible are there, that the end is near), some people may have these questions:

- Why does the world have to end? Will there really be a judgment?
- If there is a judgement, what really matters in this life?
- What is going to happen to me and my family? If my friends or family members do not believe in Jesus, does it mean they will really be judged guilty and be sent to hell?

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- Will everyone be judged the same? Is the outcome of judgement only heaven or hell no other option?
- How can I prepare for the judgement so that it will turn out best for me?
- When is it going to happen? (After all, if it is soon, perhaps next year, should we not change our priorities of what we should do?)

Choose a few of the questions above and discuss; try answering them if you believe there are biblical basis for your answers.

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