

Resurrection for the Rest of Us

Elisha Hale

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[The Prophet] David was looking into the future and speaking of the Messiah's resurrection. He was saying that God would not leave [the Messiah] among the dead or allow his body to rot in the grave. God raised Jesus from the dead, and we are all witnesses of this. Now [Jesus] is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. And the Father, as he had promised, gave him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and hear today.

Acts 2:31-33 NLT

Resurrection is for the person that is. . .

1. A religious Outsider.

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is a desert place. And he rose and went. And there was an Ethiopian, a eunuch, a court official of Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who was in charge of all her treasure. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning, seated in his chariot, and he was reading the prophet Isaiah. And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over and join this chariot."

Acts 8:26-29 ESV

2. Currently Falling Apart.

Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God [in prison], and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.

Acts 16:25b-27 ESV

Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Acts 16:28-31 ESV

3. Quietly Faithful.

In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. [but] she became sick and died...

Acts 9:36-37a NIV

Peter . . . got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "...get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive.

Acts 9:40b-41 NIV

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