

*"That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death." **Philippians 3:10 KJV***



Death is the final chapter in every life. There's no "status quo" in the graveyard. A dead dog and a dead man are still buried! Men have been looking for ways to avoid death for millennia, but cannot, because *"It is appointed unto man ONCE to die."* Men only die ONCE! There is no reincarnation, karma, or ghost state. These are all imaginations of men and manipulations of demons! The Resurrection of Life is only possible through faith in God's Word, and there is no resurrection without death. The power of Resurrection belongs to only One, Jesus Christ, because He killed Death by dying, and the only way to defeat death is through Him. Those who had witnessed His power on a daily basis were in disbelief when the women brought the news of His Resurrection. *"Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them. And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre. And they entered in, and FOUND NOT the body of the Lord Jesus. And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and THEY BELIEVED THEM NOT."* I think it interesting that women are oft maligned because of what Eve did, and yet God chose a woman to bear his Son and women to bear the news of His Resurrection. Those who claim to know Christ and have not died to *"the lust of the flesh"* and *"mortified the deeds of the body"* through God's Word are liars. Those who say, "Jesus was only resurrected spiritually," forget; spirits don't die and Christ's body was the only thing buried! *"But NOW IS CHRIST RISEN FROM THE DEAD!"* The First Resurrection is the redemption and transformation of vile corrupt mortal flesh. *"[Believers] shall not all sleep (die), but we shall ALL be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the Last Trump: And the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air!"* To know resurrection one must first die. Believers must crucify the flesh daily. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies A LIVING SACRIFICE, Holy, acceptable unto God, which is YOUR REASONABLE SERVICE."* To kill the deeds of the flesh, we must kill the thoughts that provoke them. The only way to do this is to constantly renew our minds with the Word of God. *"Let this mind be in you"* and *"Be ye transformed"* are not suggestions! Believers are warned, cajoled, and commanded to guard our thoughts by filling our minds and hearts with the Word of God. It is exactly what we need to do if we are to know the resurrecting power of God and His Word!

To know the Christ of Truth and Grace,  
There is a death that I must face,  
I must reject my sinful flesh,  
And with God's Word my mind refresh. ~CGP

*"For ever, O LORD, thy word is settled in heaven."* It doesn't matter what men believe. Faith pleases God, and imputes righteousness to my account. Faith in God's Word renews my mind, mortifies the flesh, and brings me to God. Faith is *"the victory that overcomes."*

*"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is Life and Peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the Law (Word) of God, neither indeed can be."*  
*Romans 8:6-7 KJV*