

There is Hope Radio
4-13-25-Transcript
Resurrection Sunday
PreacherRichD

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Your radio host is the Let's Get Real PreacherRichD of Creating Futures.

Well, since today's broadcast airs on Easter, which I rather call Resurrection Day, it only makes sense that today's broadcast is going to be on the theme of there is hope for eternity in heaven because of Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead. The hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ. But the show will probably go a totally different direction than you expect.

Is that enough of a teaser to get you to not turn the dial? Since I'm always trying to be real on There is HopeRadio I'm going to start this broadcast out by saying this broadcast is not necessarily going to be to the person who's already asked Jesus to be their Lord and Savior and are a committed follower of Jesus Christ. It is more directed towards two different types of individuals. One is the really carnal Christian, the one who claims to be a Christian, but there's no fruit whatsoever in their life. Is that you? If so, I hope you will not tune me out, but listen to what I have to say. Remember, there is hope. Another person I'm hoping is listening and I'm trying to reach is one who calls themselves a skeptic, an atheist, agnostic, a pagan, agnostic, or there are other religious faith than Christianity.

I'm hoping the few minutes I have to share on this Resurrection Day that you'll give me a few minutes of your time. Will you listen to what I have to say? Again, remember the title of the show is There Is Hope.

But before I say anything else, I want to share some of my own personal story. I call myself PreacherRichD, but at one time in my life, I was far from being called a preacher. I grew up as an atheist, not antagonistic atheist. Overall, I just felt no need to defend my atheism or go around attacking those who had some religious belief. As long as you left me alone, I would leave you alone. After all, it is America. You can believe in whatever you want to believe in. Now, if you want to debate, I have always been one that is open for a debate, but I certainly didn't look for debates. I certainly didn't, again, really didn't care what you thought or believed. I didn't have a problem with Christianity as long as you left me alone.

But obviously something changed in my life, since now I have spent over 45 years as a devoted follower of Jesus Christ. There is no way I have time in today's broadcast to share all the details of what led me from being an atheist to becoming a Christian that is not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. But there is one key component of my spiritual journey that is related to Resurrection Day or what some call Easter Sunday.

The key component was my journey to determine if the Bible could be trusted as a truthful, reliable source. If the Bible is one big fairy tale, if the story of Jesus' death, burial, and

resurrection was a hoax, if the whole Bible is just a book written by men with no intervention from some form of a god, then I could just completely write off the Christian religion. I am sure that there are some of you listening thinking the Bible and the resurrection story is just a hoax.

I ask that you just give me a few more minutes of your time. And by the way, I haven't forgotten those of you listening who claim to be a Christian but have no fruit of your life. I'll share with you shortly also.

But back to those who question the Bible and resurrection story. I get it. Like I said, I was right there with you at one time. But it all changed when I went on a journey to determine if there was any validity to the Bible. There are multitudes of individuals who have gone on the same journey as myself. Guess what? An overwhelming majority have come to the same conclusion as myself. The Bible must have been written by more than men. It has to be that these men were inspired by some divine source.

The evidence is overwhelming. In fact, there is a book written about the overwhelming evidence. It is titled *Evidence That Demands a Verdict* by Joshua McDowell. Listen, that book does not appeal to those who live off of emotions. It appeals to those who are rational, logical, and operate based upon facts rather than emotion. Is that you, but you're a doubter? What if I was to tell you your doubt is based upon emotions, not facts? Yes, you heard me correctly. If you are doubting the gospel story, doubting that Jesus died on the cross, doubting he was truly dead in the tomb, doubting that he rose from the grave, you're either operating out of ignorance of the facts or operating out of emotion.

I told you this was going to be a real broadcast. Here's my challenge to you. Become educated and do not stay closed-minded. The evidence of the validity of the Bible is overwhelming. There's no way I can take the time to share all the evidence with you today. I just wanted to stir you up a little bit, get you thinking a little bit.

If you're still listening to this broadcast, and you call yourself an unbeliever, why are you still listening? There must be a reason why you're still listening. Maybe it's time to go on a God hunt. Maybe it's time to read a book like *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*. Hey, since it's Resurrection Day, Easter Sunday, how about reading the gospel story in the Bible? I have a question for you. How can it hurt you? Just watch out, it might change your life. I have attached within the show transcript links to the gospel story in the Bible and various books on the validity of the Bible.

You can get the show notes by going to www.thereishoperadio.org and clicking on this broadcast. That is www.thereishoperadio.org and clicking on this broadcast. Resurrection Sunday is the title.

To stretch you a little further, I'm going to be praying for you at the end of this broadcast. I can tell you that when I was an atheist and Christians would say they're going to pray for me, I just blew it off. I can tell you 45 years later that I'm thankful for every single prayer that has come my way.

Before I get to pray, I need to speak to those of you who claim to be Christians. I've not forgotten about you. I'm going to be bold enough to say that some of you listening claim to be Christians.

Thus you say you believe in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but your words, actions and behavior give the impression that either you do not believe what the Bible teaches or you have never truly turned your life over to Christ. Today on Resurrection Day, Easter Sunday, it's time to ask yourself if you're truly born again. Do you have a true relationship with Jesus Christ or do you have just a little dab of religion? If you die today, what would the pastor say about you at your funeral? What do you say? Well, to be honest, I have no idea if Jimmy is in heaven or not. Some say Jimmy was a Christian, but the Jimmy I know had no fruit or lifestyle of being someone who has a relationship with the Savior of mankind. I cannot tell you if Jimmy is in heaven or hell. If that is you, get things right with God right now.

Maybe what you need to do is to truly turn your life over to Christ. And so I want to share the simplest form I can possibly can in the short amount of time I have of the gospel of how to become born again. So rather you're agnostic, you're a skeptic, you're an atheist or you're a backslider, or you've really never really made a commitment to Jesus to be the Lord and save your life. I just want to share the gospel to you in a very simplified form.

There's a reason why Jesus was mocked, beaten, died on a cross, buried in a tomb, and rose from the grave. First off, all of us are sinners. Every single one of us were born into sin. Some believe that man was born good, but every one of us was born in a sinful nature. Again, that would take a whole broadcast to be able to talk about that.

Because of that sinful nature, no matter how much good we do, there's always going to be more bad than good. You'll never have enough good works to get you into heaven. Why? Because heaven is a holy place with a holy God.

Heaven is a place of perfection. There is no sin whatsoever in heaven. So if you go to heaven on your good works, you're going to bring sin with you.

So what is the answer? What is the solution? The gospel answer is you need a Savior. To obtain a Savior, there has to be someone that takes your place. And the person that takes your place has to be someone who has no sin.

And so Jesus, the Son of God, came down on earth to be our Savior. He lived on this earth, had the same trials, temptations, struggles, troubles that you and I have, but never sinned. And so He could be the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

So Jesus took on the curse of sin by dying on the cross for our salvation. But Him dying on the cross would not purchase our salvation. It took more than that.

He'd have to pay the penalty of sin. So the perfect Jesus paid the penalty of our sin by dying on the cross. But three days later, He rose from the grave and He conquered sin and death.

Because Jesus conquered sin and death, we can have resurrection life and spend eternity in heaven. But it's more than spend eternity in heaven. We can walk in victory over sin.

So those of you who say that you have accepted Jesus Christ, if you're being controlled, manipulated by sin, whatever sins that may entangle you, and you're overwhelmed, just maybe you have never asked Jesus to truly be the Lord of your life. And so what I want to do right now is I want to pray for all those listening, for you skeptics out there, you agnostics out there, you backsliders out there, those of you who have never accepted Christ, I want to pray with you for you right now. Lord Jesus, I lift up every person that's listening to this broadcast.

Lord, there are some listening to this broadcast on Resurrection Day, Easter Sunday, but Lord, there are others that will be listening to this maybe years from now. I would just pray for every single person right now that is listening, that you're tugging on their heart. You've revealed to them that, yes, they're a sinner.

You've revealed to them, yes, the Bible is true. You've revealed to them that, yes, the gospel is the answer. Jesus Christ is the answer for our sin.

I would pray right now, Lord, as you've brought conviction upon them, that they would say, Jesus, I'm a sinner. I need a Savior. I fall so short of the requirement for heaven that's a perfect place.

And so I'm asking Jesus for you to be the Savior of my life, but not only be the Savior of my life, but to be the Lord of life. Would you take control of my life? Would you take charge of my life, Lord? Would you show me how to live a righteous, holy life on this earth? Would you give me victory over sin? And so, Lord, again, I confess that I'm a sinner. I need a Savior.

I'm asking you for you to be the Savior of my life. I believe that you died on the cross for my sin. I believe that you rose from the grave.

And so, Lord, I am confessing right now, Jesus, I want you to be the Lord and Savior of my life. If you've had that on your heart, you don't have to pray the very thing I prayed. Notice I didn't ask you to repeat what I said.

It's not saying the prayer in a specific way that matters. It's the heart condition. Is your heart a heart of repentance, of I want to turn around and do something different? I want to live life different than the way I have been living life.

I want God to be in charge instead of me being in charge. If you ask Jesus to come into your heart, He will come into your heart. He will be the Lord of your life.

And you will experience eternal life. And listen to me. You will know that you know.

It may not happen immediately, but there will be a change that takes place. There will be a difference of how you look at things, how you see things. There will be a change of heart that will take place when the Holy Spirit enters into your life.

When you accept Christ as your life, the Holy Spirit enters into your life. And you become transformed. And then there's the process of a sanctification, which is walking out your salvation.

Well, I'm almost out of time here, but I have to do another prayer. Lord God, I pray for the agnostic. I pray for the atheist.

I pray for the person who has a question about the validity of the Bible. I would pray, Father God, that you would reveal yourself to them. That you would speak to them.

To pick up some books on the Bible, the validity of the Bible. That today, because it's Easter Sunday, that they would turn around and read the gospel stories of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. I would pray, Father God, that you would challenge them to go on a God hunt.

I pray, Father God, that you would stir something up in them. So would you stir up in their heart to check out the validity of the Bible. If you want to learn more about the Bible, if you have questions about what I've shared here on the air, you can give me a call. The phone number is 1-866-WANT-GOD. That's 1-866-W-A-N-T-G-O-D. Well, I have absolutely run out of time.

Thank you for tuning in. And next week we'll talk more about There is Hope Radio. You've been listening to There is Hope Radio.

Thank you for tuning in. You've been listening to PreacherRichD, the radio host of *There is Hope Radio* and the founder of *Creating Futures*.

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