

## SAVED: By His Resurrection

John 20:11-18

*If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. -Romans 6:5 NIV*

While Jesus was on earth, he did some amazing miracles. He healed the sick, gave sight to the blind, and fed thousands of people with a little boy's lunch. A more impressive miracle was when he raised Lazarus from the dead four days after he had died. All of these are amazing things and there is no way we could do any of these things.

The most amazing miracle Jesus ever performed, however, was raising himself from the dead. Some people think that running a marathon would be a miracle. However, can you imagine how much harder it would be to run a marathon if you're asleep! And wouldn't it be impossible if you're dead?! It is hard for us to comprehend Jesus healing a blind man, but it is more amazing when he, as a dead man, raises himself from the dead.

We too get to experience some amazing miracles from God. Although we don't get to see Jesus walk on the water or turn water into wine, we do see God working. An amazing miracle he gives us is the miracle of baptism. In baptism, God creates new sons and daughters. Through the waters of baptism, we are united to Christ.

As it says in the verse for today, we are "united to him in his death." That is sometimes a surprising statement. Didn't Jesus die so that I don't have to? Jesus did sacrifice himself so that we wouldn't face God's punishment, but that doesn't mean we can go on living as we are. We are sinful people but through baptism we are united to Jesus in his death. Our old, sinful selves are drowned and we come out as new creations, spotless and holy as Jesus is.

It is an amazing assurance that we will also be united with Christ in his resurrection. When we die, we don't need to worry if we have been good enough to get into heaven, but we have certainty that Jesus has paid the full price for our sins. When Jesus returns as he said, we will be raised with all of the believers and spend eternity with him. We wait for that last day when there will be no sadness or night. As it says in Revelation, "The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp...On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there."

Let's pray:

Dear Lord, Thank you for your death and resurrection so that through you we might die and be raised as new creations. Help us to look forward to the day that you will return to make everything new. Amen.

