

## Resurrection Sunday 2008

### The Signs in John's Gospel

Out of the many miracles that Christ performed, John selected seven. He then topped it off with the eighth, the resurrection. He put these specific miracles or "signs" together with a specific goal in mind – that we might believe in Jesus and receive eternal life as a result.

*John 20:31 (NKJV) ... These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.*

The first seven signs are given in a specific order. When we put the signs together they form a picture of salvation. John chose them to prove the deity of Christ, that He is the Messiah, the Son of God.

- The first three signs show how salvation comes to the sinner.
- The last four signs show the results of salvation in the believer.
- After that John caps it off with the ultimate sign – the resurrection.

### The First Three signs: How Salvation Comes to the Sinner

1. Water into wine (2:1-11)—salvation is by the Word

*John 2:5 (NKJV) His mother said to the servants, "Whatever He says to you, do it."*

2. Healing the nobleman's son (4:46-54)—salvation is by faith

*John 4:49-53 (NKJV) <sup>49</sup>The nobleman said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies!"*

*<sup>50</sup>Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." So the man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he went his way. <sup>51</sup>And as he was now going down, his servants met him and told him, saying, "Your son lives!"*

*<sup>52</sup>Then he inquired of them the hour when he got better. And they said to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." <sup>53</sup>So the father knew that it was at the same hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives." And he himself believed, and his whole household.*

3. Healing the paralytic (5:1-9)—salvation is by grace

*John 5:6-9 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"*

*<sup>7</sup>The sick man answered Him, "Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me." [Focus on his own lack of ability.]*

*<sup>8</sup>Jesus said to him, "Rise, take up your bed and walk." <sup>9</sup>And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. [Christ heals him despite the man's inability.]*

## The Last Four Signs: The Results of Salvation in the Believer

### 4. Feeding the 5,000 (6:1-14)—salvation brings satisfaction

*John 6:10-11 (NKJV) <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said, “**Make the people sit down.**” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. <sup>11</sup>And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, **as much as they wanted.***

### 5. Walking on the rough sea (6:16-21)—salvation brings peace

*John 6:16-21 (NKJV) <sup>16</sup>Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. <sup>18</sup>Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. <sup>20</sup>**But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.”** <sup>21</sup>**Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.***

### 6. Healing the blind man (9:1-7)—salvation brings light

*John 9:1-7 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup>Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “**Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.** <sup>4</sup>**I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.** <sup>5</sup>**As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.**” <sup>6</sup>When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. <sup>7</sup>And He said to him, “**Go, wash in the pool of Siloam**” (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.*

When we wash in that pool of the One Who Is Sent we too will come back seeing.

*John 8:11 - John 8:12 (NKJV) <sup>12</sup>Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “**I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.**”*

## 7. Raising of Lazarus (11:38-45)—salvation brings life

*John 11:38-45 (NKJV)* <sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, **“Take away the stone.”**

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.”

<sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, **“Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?”** <sup>41</sup>Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, **“Father, I thank You that You have heard Me.** <sup>42</sup>**And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.”** <sup>43</sup>Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, **“Lazarus, come forth!”** <sup>44</sup>And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, **“Loose him, and let him go.”**

<sup>45</sup>Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him.

We too are brought to life by our faith in Jesus Christ

*Ephesians 2:1 (NKJV)* And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins.

## The Ultimate Sign: The Resurrection - John 20

John's Explanation of the signs:

*John 20:30-31 (NKJV)* <sup>30</sup>And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Dear Lord Jesus, I believe You love me, but I know that I am a sinner and that I need Your forgiveness. I believe that You died for my sins when You died on the cross. I believe You rose from the dead. I want to turn away from my sins and follow You. I invite You to come into my life. I trust You as My Savior and respect You as my Lord. Thank You Lord, for hearing my prayer. Amen.