

The Radical Resurrection

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I. Introduction. Text: Acts 4:1-12.

II. Authorities would and do oppose the gospel message today. Nothing is more threatening to powers than the message of Jesus.

III. Elements to the message that was preached by Peter.

A. Jesus rose from the dead, and they were witness to this fact.

1. Jesus Christ had solved the problem of death.

2. This was unique to history—people had been resuscitated, but never resurrected.

B. The promise of resurrection had been extended to others and not just to Jesus.

C. The death of the body someday is linked to the inner death the person experiences now.

1. It is from this kind of life that Jesus offers freedom.

2. There was salvation in no one else.

IV. The difference in Peter who once rejected Jesus was that he was indwelt by the Holy Spirit.

V. Jesus was the cornerstone that the builders rejected. (Psalm 118)

A. He is the one upon whom all governments will rest.

B. However, the Jews rejected this opportunity.

C. God resurrected Him nevertheless.

D. Only through Jesus can men be saved.

V. Every person must ask Jesus personally to come into his life.

Application questions:

1. What were the crucial elements to Peter's telling of the gospel?

2. How would you respond to someone who argues that saying Jesus is the only way is intolerant?

3. The “builders” rejected Jesus, but what have you done with Him? What is the condition of your personal relationship with Him? If you have not had one, what is keeping you?
