The Crucifixion and Resurrection of the Lord The Lord Who Was Raised

Acts 2:22-24

1. The Lord's _

(v.24a)

Wicked men, for their own wicked goals, willfully carried out the plan of God by putting Jesus to death (cf. Gen. 50:20), but it was God who raised Him from the dead. Though the enemy attempts to counterfeit what God does (cf. Rev. 13:3-4), only God has the power to raise the dead. God, through Elijah (1 Ki. 17:ff) and Elisha (2 Ki. 4:8ff) raised the sons of two widows to life along with another unnamed Israelite (2 Ki. 13:20-21). Jesus raised a widow's son (Luke 7:;11ff), a nobleman's daughter (Mark 5:35ff), and Lazarus from the dead before taking up His own life from the dead (cf. John 10:18). By the power of the Lord, Peter raised a faithful servant to life (Acts 9:36ff) and Paul raised a heavy-lidded listener from the dead (Acts 20:7-12).

2. The Lord's _

_ (v.24b)

God's plan was that He would uphold righteousness and justice (Ps. 89:14) while also abounding in His mercy (Luke 18:13-14). God's intention was that through the cross and resurrection He would justify and bring to Himself rebel sinners who totally deserve His wrath (1 Pet. 3:18). God's intention was to reconcile to Himself everyone who believes in Him (2 Cor. 5:18; Rom. 5:10) by making Christ to be sin on our behalf (2 Cor. 5:21). We can now proclaim that men can be reconciled to God and to one another on the basis of the work of Christ (Eph 2:13ff).

3. The Lord's

___ (v.24c)

On account of the righteous judgment of God, death is the consequence of sin (Gen. 2:17; 3:19). God exercises His sovereign power over the life and death (Deut. 32:39), the health and well being (Ex. 4:11), and the provision for all things (Matt 6:25ff). Death has no power over God. Death could not stop God from accomplishing the resurrection of Jesus Christ (cf. John 10:18). The final defeat of death was guaranteed by the empty tomb, and death will one day be finally abolished by the Lord (1 Cor. 15:26, 54-57).

4. The Lord's _

_ (v.38)

Everyone has violated God's commands and stands before Him as a sinner (Rom. 3:23). All men are under the just condemnation of God for the sins which we willfully commit (Rom. 6:23). God has always been a merciful savior who delights in showing mercy and grace (Ezek. 33:11; Jon. 4:2). The Son of God took on flesh in order to accomplish the work required to reconcile men to God (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8). All men are commanded to repent and believe the gospel (Mark 1:14; Acts 17:30). Any and every repentant sinner will be forgiven and blessed by the Lord with everlasting life (Rom. 6:23; cf. Rom. 4:4-5; Eph 2:8-9; Gal. 3:24).