

## **The Event That Changed Everything** **Acts 13:28–30 (NKJV)**

28 And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. 29 Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. 30 But God raised Him from the dead.

WASHINGTON (UPI)--North Carolina evangelist Billy Graham said Friday he would not agree with President Nixon that the moon landing was the most important event since the beginning of the world. In welcoming the astronauts back to earth Thursday, Nixon said, "this is the greatest week since the beginning of the world, the creation.

If you do a search for the most important events in history you will come up with a whole host of items.

But most of the time, nothing concerning the life, death, or resurrection of Christ ever makes these lists.

Even creation pales in comparison with the death and resurrection of Christ.

God spoke the universe and all that is in it into existence but it cost God nothing.

But the life and death, and resurrection of Jesus cost the physical life of the incarnate Son of God.

I would sooner say that God created everything in order to bring the Only Begotten Son into the world.

So beyond a doubt the resurrection of Jesus from the tomb was the greatest event in all of history.

- I. It is the greatest event when considering how it changed the world.
  - A. Of all the people in the world none worshiped the true God except the Jews.
    1. And they were all form and nothing from the heart.
    2. Pagan worship was sensual and depraved.
    3. Human sacrifice.
  - B. Christianity came to change all of that.
    1. Those who judge Christianity harshly need to thank God they were born in a Christian land.
    2. An atheist arrived on a south pacific island and saw a native reading his Bible. The atheist asked if that book had ever done him any good. The native replied that it had done the visitor good for he would have been supper otherwise.
- II. It is the greatest event as seen by the affect it had on the lives of the New Testament people.

- A. James the brother of the Lord.
    - 1. Before the death of Jesus none of His brothers did believe.
    - 2. After the resurrection James, the author of James the epistle, was made pastor of the Jerusalem church.
  - B. Peter
    - 1. Look at Peter before the resurrection.
      - a. He was fearful and denied the Lord three times.
    - 2. Look at him after the resurrection.
      - a. He speaks boldly and with power on the day of Pentecost.
      - b. He and John defy the Jewish leaders.
  - C. The other disciples.
    - 1. Tradition tells us that all but John died a martyr's death
  - D. James the son of Zebedee
    - 1. He was the first of the apostles to be put to death for his testimony.
    - 2. A man might die for what he thinks is true but no one would die for something they knew was a lie.
- III. It is the greatest event when considering the salvation of our souls.
- A. It proves that Jesus was who He said He was.
    - 1. He claimed to be from above. John 3
    - 2. He claimed to be the Christ, the anointed of God.
    - 3. He claimed to be the Son of God.
    - 4. He claimed to be the Savior of the world.
    - 5. He claimed to be the only way, the truth and the life and that no one could come to the Father except through Him.
  - B. It proves that He provided a sufficient sacrificial atonement for our sins.
    - 1. In the Old Testament when the priest went into the Holy of Holies on the day of atonement they tied a rope around his waist so that if God rejected the sacrifice he made they could pull his dead body out of the Holy of Holies.
    - 2. Jesus sacrifice was acceptable to God, we know this because of our text.
      - a. Acts 13:29

(1) Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. 30 But God raised Him from the dead.

C. It proves that we can be forgiven by trusting in Him.

1. If Jesus paid our debt we can be forgiven.
2. Romans 5:8 (NKJV)
  - a. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

D. It proves that His word is true and can be trusted.

1. Get into the word today.
2. Read the resurrection story in all 4 gospels.
3. Give yourselves to the word and it will change your soul through the agency of the Holy Spirit.

E. It proves that He is going to return someday.

1. Over and over again Jesus told us that He would return.
2. He told us that we should be ready at any time for His return.
3. The Jews of Jesus' day rejected Him and went their own way and brought on themselves condemnation.
4. What a shame if we were not prepared to meet Him on this day.