



# Pastor's Comments

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## Northampton Assembly of God

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### Jesus Christ Arose!

The central teaching of the early Christian church was **the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ!** Peter, addressing a huge gathering of Jewish onlookers, in Acts 2:23-24, charged that they *“by wicked hands have crucified”* Jesus. Then Peter emphatically declared, *“whom God hath raised up!”* A few verses later he stated, *“This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.”* Later, a large crowd gathered after the miraculous healing of a lame man. Peter charged them with having *“killed the Prince of life”* but declared, *“whom God hath raised from the dead”* (Acts 3:15). Jewish leaders *“grieved that they...preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead,”* arrested Peter and John who explained that the man was healed *“by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead”* (Acts 4:10).

Everywhere the apostles went, they proclaimed this truth. Peter, speaking to the household of a Roman centurion in Caesarea, told of how Jesus was hanged in Jerusalem, but then proclaimed, *“Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly...even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead”* (Acts 10:40-41). Repeatedly, in synagogues or in places like Mars' hill in Athens, Paul preached the resurrection of Christ telling how God, *“raised him from the dead”* (Acts 17:31). Thousands of Jews and Gentiles became Christian believers as the apostles boldly proclaimed **the truth of the resurrection of Jesus.** *“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus”* (Acts 4:33).

This truth is central to salvation, *“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved”* (Romans 10:9).

Do you believe that Jesus was raised from the dead?