

Crucified in weakness, resurrected in power (the title for today) 2 Cor 13:3-4

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Or One Aspect of the Crucifixion

2 Cor 13:4 For indeed He was crucified because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God. For we also are weak in Him, yet we shall live with Him because of the power of God directed toward you.

Aspects of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ that are Important for Believers

1. Resurrection of Jesus Christ is a vital part of the Gospel 1 Cor 15:1-4
2. Resurrection of JC is related to faith in JC 1Cor 15:12-17
3. Resurrection is necessary for completion of Justification Rom 4:25
4. Resurrection is necessary for the perpetuation of the line of David to become the king.
5. Resurrection is necessary for the good pleasure of GTF's plans Is 53:10
6. Resurrection is a vital part for the believers confidence in the future, after death and into eternity 1 Pet 1:3-5; Phil 3:21

Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the basis of our POWER to live the Christ-centered Life

To love as He love even to the point of the sacrifice of our own lives

To love as Jesus Christ loved

To live as Jesus Christ lived

To glorify God the Father; to glorify Jesus Christ; for production in the Christ-centered life

The same love that put Jesus Christ on the cross is in you.

The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is in you,

God the Holy Spirit.

Flow of the passage:

The Corinthian believers think Paul is weak and that Christ is weak.

(When you love like Christ, you will often be perceived as being weak.)

The Corinthian believers deny that Paul has any spiritual power!

Paul is going to Corinth for the third time

(1 Cor 13:1 "This is the third time I am coming to you...").

He will have to be tough on the Corinthians this time. Paul has tried to deal with them in the gentleness of spiritual love but they took it as weakness.

Often when you conduct yourselves in spiritual love, you will be judged, even by other Christians who prefer to live by Law as weak, etc.

Paul carried out his ministry in love not by law.

2 Cor 13:3 since you are seeking for proof of the Christ who speaks in me, and who is not weak toward you, but mighty in you.

Verse 3: Since you are seeking for proof

The Corinthians want PROOF that Paul is of Christ, that Christ is in him and that his message is of Christ.

Paul will give them proof, but not what they are expecting.

They want signs, wonders and miracles.

But this is an age of new power, inner power: the POWER of the Holy Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit in you making you powerful, strong — spiritually strong.

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Paul is weak and has no inherent power. His power is the power of Christ — the power of the Holy Spirit. This power and weakness are a contradiction in the world.

2 Cor 13:3 since you are seeking for proof of the Christ (1) who speaks in me, and (2) who is not weak toward you, (3) but mighty in you.

Three statements Paul makes:

(Since you are seeking for proof of Christ)

1. Jesus Christ speaks in Paul (who speaks in me)
2. Jesus Christ is not weak toward them. (And who is not weak toward you)
3. Jesus Christ is mighty in them. (But mighty in you)

Jesus Christ who speaks in me

This is the same problem that Jesus Christ had with the Jews in reference to God the Father speaking in him. Paul is saying the same thing now about his, and our, relationship to Jesus Christ. This should characterize every believer when empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Who is not weak toward you

This is an extremely important statement concerning Jesus Christ and you! We have seen how so many think that spiritual love is WEAKNESS; that loving as Christ loves is WEAKNESS. Per the view of the world, it is much more impressive and demonstrative of power to deal with everyone according to the LAW. They think Paul is weak. But Paul is not weak, for Christ speaks through him by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

But mighty in you

Power for “mighty” is “dunateo.” This is from the same root that we studied in Galatians — the POWER of the Holy Spirit in you...

Crucifixion was in weakness. Resurrection is in power.

To the Greeks and the Romans, Christ crucified is weakness, foolishness. The ultimate weakness was to die, not something to be revered. But this fact is the very strength and power of Christianity!

Jesus Christ dying on the cross is judgment of sins, is not power. Jesus Christ became weak to meet our need.

For when mankind was at its weakest point, this is what Jesus Christ had to do — die! And for man to be strong, HE was raised from the dead!

The power that raised Jesus Christ is the same power in you!!!

Verse 4: Crucified in weakness; resurrected in power!

2 Cor 13:4 For indeed He was crucified because of weakness, yet He lives because of the power of God. (This is power you and I need to tap into)
For we also are weak in Him, yet we shall live with Him because of the power of God directed toward (in) you.

What is that power? The Holy Spirit.

Weakness and power: always seen as a contradiction, but brought together in one person. They are experienced together by Christ and now by every believer

Our lives as believers are not lives of weakness, trying hard to live a “Godly life.” But the life of a believer in Jesus Christ is one that can be power.

Jesus Christ died in reference to our weakness.

Jesus Christ rose from the dead in strength and power that we can experience now.

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FOR indeed He was crucified because of weakness

Note the Greek construction:

FOR INDEED He was crucified out of weakness

BUT He lives out of the power of God

FOR INDEED we are weak in Him

BUT we shall live with him out of Power of God toward you

Notice in Greek each sentence begins with the FOR INDEED dogmatic affirmation of a truth. The second part of each sentence begins with the adversative BUT.

For indeed HE was crucified out of weakness

For indeed WE are weak in Him

BUT He lives But we shall live with Him

But He lives out of Power of God

But we shall live with Him out of Power of God toward (in) you (us)

Jesus Christ was crucified out of weakness but lives out of Power of God

He submitted to the weakness of Death and is now alive by the POWER of God

Verse 4:

Weakness and power always seem to be in contradiction. But they are brought together on the cross and in JC in the resurrection.

1. In Romans 5 “weakness” is used to describe our condition before Jesus Christ died for us.
2. Principle: Jesus Christ had to die in weakness if He was to deliver us out of the condition of weakness. We are not talking about physical weakness, but spiritual weakness.
3. Christ’s weakness of obedience to God the Father caused Him to take on the ultimate spiritual weakness - spiritual death. Sin is weakness. Phil 2:8 being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on the Cross.
4. Christ’s death on the cross is the supreme manifestation of weakness.
5. Christ’s resurrection from the dead is the ultimate manifestation of power. You have the same power of Jesus Christ if you believed in Him.

“In you” same power that raised JC from the dead. Rom 8:6

Power of God that is in you... by faith in Christ. All you need to do is activate it by faith; not by doing.