

—{1}. **2 Timothy 2:8** **Remember Jesus Christ**

A. Introduction

1. This morning, on this Communion Sunday, when we celebrate the Lord's supper, our text, taken from our Scripture reading, is "Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel" (2 Timothy 2: 8 NAS)
2. from this text I want to pick out 5 things to prepare our hearts to remember the Lord's death until His glorious return
 - a. Remember
 - b. Jesus Christ
 - c. Risen from the dead
 - d. David
 - e. Gospel

B. Remember

1. Memory is a wonderful, yet perplexing thing
 - a. we have computers these days that can store hundreds of billions of characters of information on the hard disk drive memory and billions of characters in main memory
 - b. and, with digital photography, and with programs to manipulate those pictures, people can still fill up that memory and want still more
 - c. but scientists say that the human mind can store as many as 600 memories per second for a lifetime of 75 years without the slightest strain – more than any computer —{2}.
 - d. so, in an instant – in my memory – I can be back lying under a huge elm tree in the pasture with the cows grazing all around watching the clouds drift across a summer sky, just as real as though I were there today
 - e. on the other hand, I can walk from here over to that table to get something and when I arrive, I can stand trying to remember what I am doing there

- f. or I can meet someone I have known for years and yet, for the life of me, I cannot dredge their name from my memory
- 2. but, Paul exhorts Timothy to remember, to remember One whom we should never have a problem doing so ...

C. Jesus Christ

- 1. sometimes in giving a testimony
 - a. a person may be criticized for telling about the day they were saved many years ago, when they met Jesus Christ
 - b. with the question, 'but what has the Lord done lately?'
 - c. that is, 'I'm not interested in history, tell me about your recent experience as a Christian.'
 - d. yet, the day we met Jesus as Saviour, the day of salvation
 - e. is the most important day of our lives
 - f. there is, then, no shame in remembering that encounter, nor, if in telling about our Saviour, we focus upon it
 - g. the exalted Jesus, giving a message to the Ephesian church, had this to say, *"But I have **this** against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, and repent and do the deeds you did at first..."* (Revelation 2:4-5a NAS) – it's good to remember this
- 2. Remember Jesus Christ
 - a. remember what He has done for you
 - b. remember who He is – Jesus Christ
 - c. now, to us the word Christ in that phrase sounds like a surname – sometimes, to emphasize what is behind that name we enlarge it to Jesus *the* Christ, or to Jesus *the Messiah* – but in the original it is simply Jesus Christ
 - d. let's think about that title for our Saviour a minute:
 - (A) we use surnames to particularize who we are
 - (B) I suppose sometime long ago there was a man named Hutchin and his boy was called, something Hutchinson

- (C) in some Scandinavian areas, Leif, the son of Eric, was called Leif Ericson; while Hilda, the daughter of Helga was called Hilda Helgasdottir
 - (D) Jerry's family name is Kang; Jong Min's is Kim
 - (E) Jesus was given a fairly common Jewish name, Yeshua or Yehoshua – meaning 'Yahweh will save'
 - (F) during his earthly ministry, that was particularized as 'Jesus of Nazareth,' giving where His home was
- e. but, Jesus accomplished man's salvation upon the cross, was raised again, and is exalted to the right hand of the Majesty on high, Peter says, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified." (Acts 2:36 NAS)
- f. remember Jesus, not just as an itinerant preacher from Nazareth, but the Saviour–Messiah, Son of God, Lord

D. Risen from the Dead

1. This Saviour–Messiah, Son of God, Lord ... died on the cross

a. Why?

Why did they nail Him to Calvary's tree?

Why? tell me, why was He there?

Jesus the Helper, the Healer, the Friend–

Why? tell me, why was He there?

b. and the answer

All my iniquities on Him were laid–

He nailed them all to the tree;

Jesus the debt of my sin fully paid–

He paid the ransom for me. ^{–{3}}.

c. the Great Creator became my Saviour!

2. but He did not stay dead, He is not in the tomb

a. every founder of every other religion is dead

b. Mohammed is buried and in the earth

- c. Gautama Buddha is dead and buried
- d. but Jesus Christ rose again; he **“is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.”** (1 Peter 3:22 NAS)

E. David

1. this Jesus Christ, whom we are to remember, is descended from David – David, King of Israel – just two points on this ...
2. God promised to David that the Messiah, the Anointed, would be born of David’s descendants
 - a. now this was fully to be expected
 - b. because, the Anointed was a term for the king
 - c. David called Saul, his predecessor, the Anointed
 - d. and everywhere in the Old Testament, the references is always to ‘the Messiah’ – the one anointed to be king or to be priest or to be prophet – to hold this or that office
 - e. but Daniel, in prophesying of the times to come, does not call Him ‘the Messiah’, but just ‘Messiah’ – God would keep His promise – and He keeps all His promises – not in someone filling an office, but in a Person, one special, unique Person, Jesus Christ; Saviour–Messiah
3. Second, as descendant of David
 - a. Jesus Christ is rightfully a King
 - b. and as King He is going to return to take up the rule of His kingdom
 - c. **‘that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those who are in heaven, and on earth, and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.’**
(Philippians 2: 10-11 NAS)
 - d. Jesus is coming again!

F. Gospel means good news; Paul’s good news; our good news

1. this Jesus Christ
 - a. that Paul exhorted Timothy to remember
 - b. to remember in times of discouragement or defeat

c. to remember in times of joy and worship

d. is the Redeemer bringing eternal salvation to every one who will come to God through Him

2. 'that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.' (Romans 10:9-10 NAS)

3. Remember Jesus Christ!

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NIV	New International Version © 1984 by the International Bible Society
NKJV	New King James Version © 1979 Thomas Nelson Inc., Publishers
NLT	1996 New Living Translation © 1996 by Tyndale Charitable Trust
PHIL	New Testament Translation © 1972 by J. B. Phillips
RSV	Revised Standard Version © 1946, 1952 by the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U. S. A.
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2. Andrew Acquistapace, in Pulpit and Bible Study Helps – Kerux illustration #1411
3. “Why?” By John M. Moore, © 1953, renewed 1981 by the author