

# 4-5-26 Message

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

Resurrection, Jesus Christ, faith, salvation, Holy Spirit, power of God, Sadducees, Pharisees, Zealots, Essenes, Scriptures, eternal life, resurrection chapter, eyewitness accounts, overcomers.

## SPEAKERS

Pastor Dow Boyer, Speaker 1

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Um So good to see each and everyone of you here today and those who are watching online. For many of you here, I think you know me. Almost a year ago, you voted for me, but for those of you who are who are new or had not been here before today and somebody had brought you in or coerced you into coming, my name is dal Boyer, and I know that that confuses a lot of people. They're like, what did he say? What was his first name? So I figured for the visitors there, I'm going to help you out a little bit. It's not it's not D, a l, it's not short for Dallas. So just we get that clear. It's also not dowel, although in my thinner days, but it rhymes with cow. So yes, I have daughters who work for Chick fil A, so we'll give them a little love. Here today, it's a Sunday. You can't really do anything about it. You have to about it. You have to wait till tomorrow. But anyway, so it is D, O, W, so it is Dow, and I thought it is amazing over the years, how many people try to be witty or funny or amazing because they never heard that name? And I often thought that my mom gave me a name that no one would forget, so that could be either good or bad, right? When I was in the mortgage industry, I was like, Well, that could be great for referrals, but then if you do a really bad job, that could be really bad for your name in the community. And I think it's probably the same way as a pastor, so there's a lot to live up to, because you probably won't forget that name, so Lord knows, I haven't. So anyway, now we're all family. We all know my name, so that's great. So I feel like we're already off on the right foot today, and I definitely want to be able to say that this is the time of year, as we've been talking about the last few weeks. That is awesome, that we can just pause, we can take a break, and we can really focus on the resurrection. Really, it should be that way every day for the believer, but we shouldn't have to wait once a year to celebrate the resurrection, just like we shouldn't wait once a year to make a new commitment to the Lord. It's January, 1 time to make a commitment. But all it really matters now that we're all in this place together, right, is that we are like minded, and our focus today is on the resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is what will set apart the gathering of people from every other religion versus what we believe. And it is so critical. So I hope that today we'll take this a little bit different direction. But I hope this will be encouragement to you. And if you're here today and you're like, Well, I don't know, somebody just pulled me in. I was one of the coerced ones, as you said, Maybe I was promised a free gift. I don't I don't know what what the reasoning is, but I will say this, that today, the best news I can give you is that Jesus Christ died on the cross for your sins. He shed His precious blood. Three days later, he rose again from the grave. And the significance of that is this, you could never have got to God on your own, and the Bible has said that we're all sinners. We've all come short of the glory of God. So God came down in a plan that was kept secret before the world began and made a way for you. In fact, today, he says it is a gift to you. You're not going to have to join Grace point today in order to have a right relationship with God. You're not going to be asked to

take a dip in a pool. You're not going to be asked to help a lot of old people and give all of your money. You are asked to just believe and receive the gift that God has provided for you. In fact, the Bible says in Romans five eight, that God hath commendeth his love toward us, and that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. In fact, God gave his very best for the very worst of us. Let that sink in, like, what kind of God would do that? And what would be the motivation? The motivation is love. So today, even if just briefly, right there that you're like, yes, I want to believe that. What do I have to do next? You just have to believe even right there in your seat, you don't have to come forward, you don't have to sign anything, but the very moment that you believe, you're sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise. And what Romans eight tells us is that there's therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ, Jesus, later in that chapter, in verses 35 through 39 we're told that nothing can separate us from the love of God because of what he provided and what we do in response to what he provided, which is believe we receive by faith that Jesus died on the cross for our sins, and He was buried and rose again. And even right now, as you're watching this, if this was that moment, the Bible says that you're saved and you're sealed with that Holy Spirit, per Ephesians, 113, and the reason I want to start out with that is we're going to look at a group of people in the Bible today that just could not wrap their head around what I just said now, they had not known it to be completely revealed yet, but as a religious group, could not process the idea of resurrection. In fact, if you look back in Jesus' day, there was four main classes of Judaism, and and they would be like this. You would have the the Pharisees, very astute to the law, right, very religious. You would have the the zealots. And those are the ones who said, We should take it by force. They were more militant view of Judaism. And then there was the Essenes. Those are the ones who were more passive, and they were kind of more out in the wilderness. But there was one group. It was called the Sadducees. And in Matthew 2223 the Sadducees had a question for Jesus. Now you can also find this in Mark chapter 12 and Luke 20 so we'll pull a little bit information so we can kind of harmonize this account. But in Matthew 2223 it says the same day. This was after the Pharisees just came and tried to trick him up. But the same day came to him, the Sadducees, which say that there is no resurrection. And I like all these accounts, they just set the tone right away. Somebody's going to ask a question, but here's what you need to know about them. They don't believe in the resurrection, in the idea of resurrection. Jesus hadn't been to the cross yet, but the idea of it. And so you can see in Mark 12 and Luke 20, similar accounts. Luke 20 says it a little differently. It says, Then came to him certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection and there's, it's interesting that that word is used there. It doesn't give the idea of, well, I just don't know if I have enough information to believe if resurrection is possible. It gives the idea that I've studied this out, and my assumption right, my conclusion is it must be a claim to be denied. I think that's important when you see how Jesus responds. So what did they ask? Master Moses said, If a man die having no children, his brother shall marry his wife and raise up seed unto his brother. Now there were with us seven brethren. And the first one, he had married a wife deceased, and having no issue, left his wife unto his brother. Likewise, the second also, and the third unto the seventh. And last of all, the woman died also. This is such a crazy example. I mean, you're sitting there, Jesus has been preaching in a synagogue. You've heard the you've heard all the miracles he's done. Like, let me ask him this really tough question. This is like seven degrees of separation of Kevin Bacon stuff here. I mean, we're just, we're just moving now. Kevin anyway, he's moving through here. And it says in the resurrection, remember what was already said about them, whose wife shall she be of the seven? For they had all had her. And Jesus answered and said unto them, listen to this response. First three words, ye do err. Now this is very important. Today, there may be groups of people who will celebrate what they saw in earthly existence from Jesus, the things he did for others, the feats that he pulled off, right, but they'll stop at the resurrection. Then those people are in error if there is no resurrection, then there's a couple things here. One, they are in error to deny that. Secondly, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God, that's interesting. You're like, why are we answering a question about whose wife somebody is going to be in heaven with the power of God? Because the answer is in the fact that the what you're asking right now, that's not really the question needs to be answered for you. It's the

resurrection, not who is going to be married to who in heaven? But he goes on, he says, For in the resurrection, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are the as the angels of God in heaven, but as touching or concerning the resurrection of the dead, Have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God? Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. A religious group of people trying to answer questions without knowing, reading and understanding the Word of God is a dangerous proposition. But what Jesus says is, I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob God is not the God of the dead, but of the living. Mark's Version says this, Jesus answering, starts in verse 24 of chapter 12. Jesus answering and said unto them, do you not therefore error, because you know not the scriptures. You see this common theme, not knowing the scriptures will lead you to error. I don't care what dispensation you're in, that's just the truth. You have got to know the Word of God. You've got to study the Word of God. It's not about your feelings, it's not about what your favorite podcaster said. But are you in the Word of God? Are you studying the word of Do you know the Scriptures? He says, Neither the power of God, for when, not if, when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry nor given in marriage. But as are the angels which are in heaven, and as concerning the dead, that they rise. Not. Have you not read in the book of Moses, how in the bush, God spake unto them, saying, I am the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob he is not the God of the dead, but the God of the living. You therefore do greatly error. Do you see that? Have you not read? Do you not know as a result, therefore you greatly err. Luke, chapter 20, verses 34 through 38 Jesus answering and said unto them, The children of this world marry and are given in marriage, but they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor given in marriage, neither can they die anymore, for they are equal unto the angels, and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Now that the dead are raised, even Moses showed at the bush when he called the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob, for he is not a god of the dead, but of the living, for all live unto him. The resurrection is not something to be taken for granted. It is not something that's glossed over. It's not something that's passed over in a gospel presentation. It's not something you cower away from because it involves the supernatural, and you have to explain something. It is not a secondary issue. When you go today and you're at, I see this a lot with young people in concerts, and it's like we hear something that I think the I honestly think that the intention is that everybody in the room must assume Jesus has rose from the dead. That's the only assumption I can make, because they don't mention it. I'm so I'm assuming you think everybody in the room believes that, right? But instead, we hear that. Ask Jesus into your heart. Well, what does that mean? Who's Jesus? What does asking Him into your heart do for you? Or you're told to repeat a prayer, and your emphasis is on every word the speaker said, hoping you get it right, and then you didn't miss one, and still no resurrection. But don't you want to be right with God? Well, what does that mean? I literally have sat at a conference, I'm sorry, at a concert, and heard I I think, I don't know what I would call this, but essentially, if you want Jesus to be your friend today. Raise your hand. I mean, I'm paraphrasing, and the hands that went up with the intention of maybe ridding themselves of guilt and having some hope. And I'm left there is no hope in that room that if there is no sin, then there is no good news of what Jesus did on the cross for sin. And if Jesus didn't rise from the grave, then he's just a man who did a good thing for others, but that stops him from being God. Why do we just not want to mention the resurrection at all. Why is it not the emphasis after the blood? Why do they not work into conjunction? It's almost as though the Bible clarified this in First Corinthians, 15, three and four. I mean the gospel is Jesus shedding His blood on the cross for your sins and. He was buried, but rose again. According to the scriptures, it is not a secondary issue. We can't just both be on the freeway together and say, Hey, we both believe Jesus did good things. Jesus did miracles. Jesus rose from the grave. Whoop, Hey, where'd you go the moment you do that? You are in error. I'm not trying to be mean. I'm just saying that if you're trusting in God for your resurrection one day and he couldn't do it with himself, then your hope is misplaced. Your faith is misplaced, and as we'll see in a few minutes you are dead and in your sins. So in First Corinthians 15, and we'll spend most of our time the rest of the rest of humans that we have together in here, but if you want to turn there or look on the screen,

but verse 12 of chapter first Corinthians 15, this is commonly known as the resurrection chapter of the Bible. I think this is a fantastic chapter to read most times, but specifically on this day as a family. I know it's long, but you can at least get through the first 25 verses, I would say. But starting verse 12, it says, Now, if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead. How say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? And some would even be to that point, when he was talking to the Corinthians, that they would acknowledge that Jesus rose from the dead, but somehow they would say, but I don't really know that we will but he did. You know, even the Greeks had a belief in resurrection of the spirit, and that was separation from the body. But if Christ rose from the dead, then why would why would we not be able also to be raised from the dead? Verse 13 says, If there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen? And there's no question mark there. It's a statement, if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen? And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Any preaching that denies the resurrection is vain. That's what he's saying here. And speaking of preaching about the resurrection acts is loaded with that. What you don't see in Acts are recounting the miraculous feats that Jesus did in His earthly ministry. See how the focus changed after Jesus rose from the dead. Let's think about even the day of Pentecost, with Acts chapter two, verse 24 and this is Peter, and he's talking to a Jewish audience today at Pentecost. He says, Whom God hath raised up having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that he should be holding of it. In verse 30 through 34 he says, Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God has sworn an oath, sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne. He's seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption this Jesus hath God raised up. Whereof we are all witnesses, therefore being, by, excuse me, the right hand of God exalted having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost. He hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens, but he saith himself, the Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand. It was a large portion of his sermon, and he was dealing with the resurrection 10 verses of that day of Pentecost, sermon dealing with the resurrection. Peter also in Acts 3:15 he says, and killed the Prince of life, and whom God hath raised from the dead, whereof we are all witnesses. You can also see this in chapter four and even chapter 10, with Cornelius, and then with Paul, in Acts 13, verses 30 through 34 says, God raised Him from the dead, and he was seen many days of them which came up with him, from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are witnesses unto the people. And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us as their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again, as is also written in the second Psalm, Thou art my Son. This day have I begotten thee, and as concerning that he raised him up from the dead now no more to. Turned to corruption, he said, on the wise I will give you the such sure mercies of David. Paul uses this also in Acts chapter 17. It's really interesting that after the resurrection of Christ, so much of teaching is about His resurrection and not His earthly ministry. Week in and week out, across this country, there are probably strong sermons from the red letters about the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ, with the assumption everybody in the room knows about the resurrection, and so it's not really preached on or talked about much at all, which seems contrary even to the book of Acts. And if there is no resurrection, then the preaching is in vain. Verse 15, he says, yea, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not what's he talking about here? False witnesses? Well, remember, this chapter starts out with a long list of witnesses. This thing wasn't done in the shadows. God made sure that there were witnesses that saw the resurrected Christ so that we couldn't just say, Huh? Well, I guess it's another religion that just believes a fairy tale. In fact, he says in verse five earlier in this chapter, he says he was seen of Cephas, then of the 12. After that, he was seen above 500 brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are falling asleep. And after that, he was seen of James, then of all the apostles. And last of all, he was seen of me also as one born out of due time. So all these eyewitness accounts, he says, If Christ be not risen, then myself, the 12, these 500 witnesses, we are false witnesses of God, because we have testified that he hath raised up Christ the

eye witness testimony. Any court of law would acknowledge that many witnesses, but he says we would be false witnesses if this thing really didn't happen. Verse 16, he says, if the dead rise not then is not Christ raised, and if Christ be not raised. Now this is the part we don't like, right? Your faith is vain and you are yet in your sins. That's part of the ramifications if Jesus didn't raise from the grave. Says, If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain. He says that you are in your sins. And I say again, the resurrection is not a secondary issue. It's not even a primary issue. It is the primary issue of our faith, because if it didn't happen, all of this means nothing. In fact, the word vain, as it's used in that specific verse, is the word Matt aos, and it means empty, profitless, or especially an idol. We think about how many times Paul talks about how an idol is nothing, it's it's wood, right? And it is pointless, it is worthless. And he says our faith would be like that, like one of these false idols, if Jesus didn't raise from the grave. I remember years ago in the in a teen ministry. I don't know why I do some of the dumb things that I do, but I put this box, and I think, if I remember correctly, I think I wrapped it and I put it in the center, and we are in a circle. And I kept looking at this box, but I just kept going on, and I was trying to get them to look at the box and be and be curious what's in the box. And I would mention it from time to time, and if I caught somebody looking at I'd be like, quit looking at the box. And I just kept going and going. And finally, I was like, Who wants to look in the box? And they're all curious, right? And I remember one of the students raised their hands, and I was like, Okay, you get to be the one who gets to look in the box. Now, I've seen a lot of horror films in the past. I wasn't gonna scare them like that. Think about the movie Seven open that box. But anyway, so some of you know, anyway, so she comes up, and she's like, and what would you do? Is something gonna jump out at me? You would be kind of curious, right? And so she's slowly and probably giving a little peek. And I don't know, seriously, can somebody else do this? I mean, anyway, so we're, we're working up there. I'm really being dramatic right now. I want you to be there in that moment with me. All right, so, so she opens it, and it's like it was empty. I. Built all this anticipation up to look in the box, and there was nothing in the box. It was empty. Now let's talk about our faith. What would it look like if one day when you had breathed your last and nothing happened. Everything that you had believed about being absent from this body and present with the Lord or the hope of resurrection, right? If it all just wasn't there, then everything you had believed in your life would have been empty, no matter how shiny it looked, no matter how attractive it was, if there is no resurrection, it's empty, it's pointless. What are we doing here today? That's the idea behind the word vain. Previously in the chapter, it's the word Kanas and that's a little bit lighter. It means empty or figuratively or literally or just vain, but this word madayas gives an idea of something even more pointless and empty, and that would be our faith if Christ does not raise from the grave a world of everybody wants to believe a little bit of everything. We'll take a little bit of Jesus here, and we'll take a little bit of Muhammad here. We'll take a little bit of all. Bit of all of it, and just say, as long as we believe in something up there, if there is no resurrection of Jesus Christ, it's all worthless. Now, what does this mean for us? Well, that other part, he says we'd be in our sins. He might be thinking, well, that's kind of weird, because Jesus shed his blood on the cross, then how can we still be in our sins, especially the father says it is finished, and that was before Jesus rose from the grave. Well, think about this. The resurrection was prophesied, and Jesus prophesied about His resurrection. So if Jesus doesn't raise from the grave, then God's a liar, and all of a sudden that blood isn't sinless blood anymore. But God, knowing Jesus was going to raise from the grave, knowing it was he's all powerful and that that was going to happen, could say it is finished. It was his way of saying the resurrection is going to happen, but if it doesn't, we would be in our sins. If Jesus doesn't rise from the grave, how could that sacrifice be sufficient at that point? Now also love how all the counterfeits fail in comparison to God, Egypt is one of the few that holds to a physical body resurrection. That's why they wrap them and and linen cloth, right and expecting something to happen with their body. But never has happened. Never been an eyewitness. The majority of religious systems want to chalk up their beliefs into something like this, some sort of spirit only resurrection, separation from the body. Here's the problem with that. It can't be proved. You can't have an eyewitness. It can't be tested. You put everything you have into that, that somehow I'm spiritually going to live forever after this. I don't know how, but I will. God said, I'm going to do a

physical body, and I'm going to do hundreds of witnesses over a 40 day period of time. Top that we can believe that we have eyewitnesses that have seen that, and we know that one day we will be as he is. It's not only that we will rise from the grave, but but we will have an incorruptible body. We will have an immortal body. We will have a glorified body. If Christ didn't rise from the grave, then everything I just said would be pointless and would be vain, would be empty, and you might look in in the Bible, and you might see a lot of people been raised from the dead. And I talked to the youth about this today, but, but the difference is, I can't pull any of those people on stage today and ask them to give an account of what it was like to be raised from the dead by Jesus. I can't pull Lazarus up here, and you know why? Because they're all dead. What makes Jesus significant in Romans 69 knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more, what person in Scripture that was raised from the dead can say that? That's why Jesus is the first fruits, even though we had others in Scripture who were temporarily raised from the dead before they would pass on later. In fact, the end of Romans, 69 says death hath no more dominion over him. So how can we wrap this up? And make it make sense for you today. Want to go back to Matthew 2229 remember Jesus answered and said to them, ye do err, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God, those three things you do air you don't know the Scriptures nor the power of God. Well, I'm going to give you some scriptures that's going to talk about this power of God. Romans, 811, says, If the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by the Spirit that dwelleth in you. First. Corinthians, 614, God hath both raised up the Lord and will also raise up us by His power. What is it that makes resurrection possible? It's the power of God. That's why he's addressing to the Sadducees that you don't know the power of God. And if you're denying the resurrection, you don't know the power of God. Ephesians 320 now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think according to what the power that worketh in us. That's why, in first, Corinthians, 1520, he says, but now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept in? Wrapping this up, I want to encourage you today, if you have placed your faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Bible says you're a child of God. You now have this hope and this power inside you that you too will be raised up and have resurrection in eternity with Christ where he is. You're already seated with Him in heavenly places, it says in Ephesians. But let me remind you about this. The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in you right now. Everything that we just talked about the resurrection, that very same power is in you. You may be struggling to keep your marriage together, but the very same power that raised Jesus from the grave is in you. You may be struggling to break free from an addiction today, but the very same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in you right now. An enemy knows that, and that's why he's coming after you. You may be struggling with your past, seeing ghosts over your shoulder. I've been there. I get that, but the very same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in you, and we walk around like that's not the case. You might be experiencing failure as a husband or a spouse today, and you may feel like it's time to give up, but let me remind you that the very same power that raised Jesus from the dead is in you that should excite you. You may be struggling with your sexuality, but the very same power that raised Jesus from the grave is in you. You may be struggling with your eternity, and whether God can keep you for all eternity, whether you can be once saved, always saved. I'm like, is it too hard for God? Because the very same God, the very same power that raised Jesus from the dead, is in you. So when you think about a Resurrection Sunday, it's not just about him, it's what's in you. If you're a child of God, that should excite you, that should give you hope. He's given us the Word of God. He's given us the body of Christ. He's given us prayer, direct access to him, and he's given us this power inside of us. We can be overcomers. In fact, Romans eight says we are overcomers. So why not live out this resurrected life. There is help, there is hope, there is power inside you to put your life back together, the one you're living right now, not just the hope for eternity, but it's his power, not your willpower, not your ability to be able to be disciplined that has failed you over and over again, as you have leaned into your flesh to save you out of numerous obstacles and distractions and devastating to devastating results, it is him which worketh in us, both to will and do of His good pleasure being confident this very thing, that he which

begun a good work and you will perform until the day of Christ first, Thessalonians five talks about faithful. Is he who called you who will also do it? We talk over and over again in Scripture about being strengthened in the inner man. That's where the power's at. So did. Day, not only do we celebrate the fact that he rose from the dead, we celebrate the fact that we can be sure that we are not one of the ones who have a faith that is vain, because our Lord is risen. And more importantly today, not more important than that, but just as important, I guess, in our earthly existence, is the fact that that same power is in you, somebody have everybody stand right now. We hope you received a blessing from today's service. We would love to have you visit with us in person. For more information, please visit our website at GP indy.net, or contact us by phone at 317-535-3512, for more options to watch, just click on demand on the website. Until next broadcast, may God bless you as our prayer, and we'll pray, Dear heavenly Father. I don't know why you would die for somebody like me, but I'm thankful that you did, Lord, that is a love I will never understand. Or there's such grace, mercy, forgiveness, peace that comes from you, and that seems to be all the things that the world is looking for right now, and they won't find it in social media. They won't find it with enough likes on a post. They won't find it enough shares of a of a short video. We will find it in the shed blood of Jesus Christ, who died on the cross for our sins and rose again victoriously, showing that he is not merely a man, but he is God and Lord. Today, I pray that there isn't a soul listening online or watching online or in this building that leaves here doubting that today, that we would all leave here as part of the body of Christ being held together by the finished work of you on the cross and that resurrection three days later, Lord, I pray you just be with the people today. Help those who are struggling in those various areas that that I mentioned, let them know there is hope. You've given us the body of Christ to help us. I don't know where I would be if it weren't for good people around me. You've given us your word, you've given us prayer, you've given us your Holy Spirit. We have everything needed to be an overcomer in this life of those things. So Lord, I pray Lord, that people would tap into your power and not their own flesh, whether they start taking steps towards that and not just trying to will themselves to better behavior. Lord, that the doctrine would produce that right behavior, and that we would understand who we are in you, and we would live in accordance to that be with the people today, help them to enjoy time with their families. Lord, I pray that these conversations would be the conversations that they would have today, whether it be with their kids or their spouses and Lord, we promise to give you all the honor and glory. Amen.