

2 Timothy 2:8

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel:

Analysis

Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel. Paul grounds his exhortations in gospel core truth. The command "Remember" (*mnēmoneue*, *μνημόνευε*) means continually call to mind, keep before consciousness. Gospel truth must constantly shape thinking, not remain abstract theology. Paul specifies two crucial facts about **Jesus Christ**: His humanity ("of the seed of David") and His resurrection ("raised from the dead").

"Of the seed of David" (*ek spermatos Dauid, ἐκ σπέρματος Δαυΐδ*) affirms Jesus's genuine humanity and Messianic identity. The Davidic covenant promised an eternal King from David's line (2 Samuel 7:12-16), fulfilled in Jesus. This counters proto-Gnostic denials of Jesus's real humanity and establishes His legitimacy as Israel's Messiah. "Raised from the dead" (*egēgermenon ek nekrōn, ἐγηγερμένον ἐκ νεκρῶν*) uses perfect passive participle—Christ has been raised and remains in resurrection life.

Paul calls this "my gospel" (*to euangelion mou, τὸ εὐαγγέλιον μου*)—not that he invented it, but that he personally received it by revelation (Galatians 1:11-12) and faithfully proclaimed it. His imprisonment resulted from preaching this gospel. Remembering Christ's resurrection emboldens suffering—if Christ conquered death, present afflictions lose terror.

Historical Context

The resurrection was Christianity's most distinctive and controversial claim. Jewish Sadducees denied resurrection entirely. Greeks considered bodily resurrection absurd—they prized soul over body, viewing physical existence as inferior prison. Paul's preaching at Athens provoked mockery when he mentioned resurrection (Acts 17:32). Yet resurrection was non-negotiable gospel core (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Early Christians faced intense pressure to compromise this "offensive" doctrine.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How regularly do you meditate on Christ's resurrection as present reality, not merely past historical event?
2. How does remembering that Jesus was truly human ('seed of David') help you relate to Him in your sufferings and temptations?
3. In what practical ways does believing Christ conquered death change your response to fears about persecution, suffering, or martyrdom?

Interlinear Text

Μνημόνευε Ἰησοῦν Χριστὸν ἐγηγερμένον ἐκ νεκρῶν ἐκ
Remember that Jesus Christ was raised from the dead from
G3421 G2424 G5547 G1453 G1537 G3498 G1537

σπέρματος Δαβίδ, κατὰ τὸ εὐαγγέλιόν μου
the seed of David according to gospel my
G4690 G1138 G2596 G3588 G2098 G3450

Additional Cross-References

Acts 2:24 (Resurrection): Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.

Romans 2:16 (References Jesus): In the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Matthew 1:1 (References Jesus): The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

2 Thessalonians 2:14 (References Jesus): Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 15:4 (Parallel theme): And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

1 Timothy 2:7 (References Christ): Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, and lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

Revelation 5:5 (References David): And one of the elders saith unto me, Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.
