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“Running toward the Plague”- Eric Metaxas



1. The FACT of the resurrection is at fuel and fountain of Christian transformation

2. The meaning of the resurrection is what transforms people



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IS that really relevant in the real world we live in?

Philosophical relevance- If there is a judge, and we are sinful- then it's very Relevant- it just doesn't FEEL IMMEDIATE

Psychological relevance- much of our weakness and wickedness flows from a lack of security and identity.

A network diagram with a white background and a teal border. It features numerous small, colored circular nodes (red, yellow, teal, green, purple, orange) connected by thin, grey lines. The nodes are arranged in a complex, interconnected pattern, with some nodes having multiple lines radiating from them, suggesting a central or hub-and-spoke structure. The overall appearance is that of a digital or organizational network.

ACTS



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Rowden's experience prompted [Robert] Siegel (NPR All things considered) to ask him if he was a religious man, to which Rowden replied, "I am. Yes, I'm a practicing Christian." When Siegel then asked whether what he saw tested his faith, Rowden said that "No, I got great strength from my faith and the support of my family."

A recent article in Slate acknowledged that many of the people fighting the Ebola epidemic in West Africa were missionaries. The writer, Brian Palmer, admitted that he "[didn't] feel good about missionary medicine, even though [he couldn't] fully articulate why." He knew that he shouldn't feel this way but he did.

Ross Douthat of the New York Times suspects that Palmer's misgivings have something to do with the fact that the selflessness of the missionaries "unsettles" his "secular and scientific worldview." In that worldview, "helping people is what governments and secular groups are supposed to do."

But that's not how it works. Palmer, like the emperor Julian the Apostate in the late fourth century, is seeing that "the impious Galilaeans support not only their own poor but ours as well."

It's enough to unsettle anyone's worldview.

Major Sermons and Preaching in the Book of Acts		
SERMON	THEME	BIBLICAL REFERENCE
Peter to Crowds at Pentecost	Peter's Explanation of Pentecost	<u>Acts 2:14-40</u>
Peter to Crowds at the Temple	The Jewish People should repent for crucifying the Messiah	<u>Acts 3:12-26</u>
Peter to the Sanhedrin	Testimony that a helpless man was healed by the power of Jesus	<u>Acts 4:5-12</u>
Stephen to the Sanhedrin	Stephen reviews Jewish history, accusing the Jews of killing the Messiah	Acts 7
Philip to the Samaritans	Philip flees Jerusalem after the stoning of Stephen and begins to preach to the Samaritans	<u>Acts 8:5</u>
Peter to Gentiles	Gentiles can be saved in the same manner as Jews	<u>Acts 10:28-47</u>
Peter to church at Jerusalem	Peter's Testimony of his experiences at Joppa and a defense of this ministry to the Gentiles	<u>Acts 11:4-18</u>
Paul to Synagogue at Antioch	Jesus was the Messiah in fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies	<u>Acts 13:16-41</u>
Paul and Barnabus at Iconium	Paul and Barnabus spoke boldly in Iconium's Jewish Synagogue, causing many to believe and disbelievers to stir up opposition	<u>Acts 14:3-7</u>
Peter to Jerusalem Council	Salvation by grace available to all	<u>Acts 15:7-11</u>
James to Jerusalem Council	Gentile converts do not require circumcision	<u>Acts 15:13-21</u>
Paul and Silas in Prison	Paul and Silas preach to the prison guard after a terrible earthquake	<u>Acts 16:31</u>
Paul in Athens at the Areopagus	Paul preaches the Gospel in the Athenian culture that has no knowledge of the God of Judaism	<u>Acts 17:22-35</u>
Paul to Ephesian Elders	Remain faithful in spite of false teachers and persecution	<u>Acts 20:17-35</u>
Paul to crowd at Jerusalem	Paul's statement of his conversion and his mission to the Gentiles	<u>Acts 22:1-21</u>
Paul to Sanhedrin	Paul's defense declaring himself a Pharisee and Roman Citizen	<u>Acts 23:1-6</u>
Paul's defense before Felix in Caesarea	Paul proclaims his righteousness and judgment to come	<u>Acts 24:10-21</u>
Paul to King Agrippa	Paul's statement of his conversion and zeal for the Gospel	<u>Acts 26:2-23</u>
Paul to Jewish leaders at Rome	Paul's statement about his Jewish Heritage	<u>Acts 28:17-20</u>

*Much of the information in this chart is taken from *Nelson's Complete Book of Maps and Charts* (1996).

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Acts 1:3—Alive after passion
Acts 1: Jesus' words after the resurrection
Acts 1:16-22—Peter's statement
Acts 1:22—Peter's Pentecostal sermon
Acts 2:23-24—Jesus crucified and raised
Acts 2:27—Not leave soul in hell
Acts 2:31—Resurrection of Christ
Acts 2:32—Witnesses of the resurrection
Acts 2:38—Jesus crucified; Lord and Christ
Acts 3:13-16, 18—Jesus killed and raised
Acts 3:26—God raised Jesus
Acts 4:2—Through Jesus, the resurrection of the dead
Acts 4:10—Jesus crucified and raised
Acts 4:13—Great power gave apostles witness of the resurrection
Acts 5:28—Bring man's blood upon us
Acts 5:30-32—Death and resurrection-apostles and Holy Spirit are witnesses
Acts 7:52—Martyrdom of Jesus
Acts 10:39-43—Death and resurrection witnesses, commission to preach
Acts 13:29-31—Paul preached: death, burial, empty tomb, appearances, witnesses
Acts 13:33-37—Resurrection
Acts 17:3—Suffer and rise again
Acts 17:18—Jesus and resurrection
Acts 17:31-32—Assurance by raising Jesus from the dead
Acts 20:28—Paul purchased with Jesus' blood
Acts 22:15—Witness of Jesus was the risen Lord (also see Acts 9, 26)
Acts 22:8-9—Resurrection of the dead (24:15, 21, 26)
Acts 25:11b—Jesus dead-Paul still alive
Acts 26:14-18—Appearance of Jesus
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Psychological relevance- The resurrection is relevant because of our weakness and wickedness. It is relevant from a lack of security.

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