

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Just as the idea of a resurrection from the grave was ridiculed and rejected by those of the first century who follow human philosophy (Acts 17:18, 32), but accepted by believers in God (Acts 24:14,21), even so it is today. Those who believe in a powerful personal God who was capable of creating life in the beginning find no difficulty in accepting the idea that He will raise the dead at the end just as He resurrected Jesus during the first century. The resurrection of Jesus is the supreme miracle of the Bible. In comparison to it, the other miracles are minor, for without it they mean nothing. If Jesus did not arise from the grave, He is not the Son of God and His other works are meaningless.

I. Predictions of the Resurrection: Psm. 16:8-11; Isa. 53:10; Jn. 2:19

II. Evidence of the Resurrection

A. Empty Tomb - the answer to the theories of men

1. Observers of the burial found the body missing.
2. They found the linen grave clothes lying to the side, and the napkin folded and lying by itself.
3. They saw that the large rock had been rolled back.
4. Theories of Men
 - a. Swoon Theory
 - b. Vision Theory
 - c. Spiritualistic Theory
 - d. Optical Illusion Theory
 - e. Hallucination Theory

B. Appearances of Jesus following Resurrection (Therefore Stand, pp. 387-388)

1. To certain women as they returned from the sepulcher, after having seen the angel who told them Christ had risen (Mt. 28:1-10)
2. To Mary Magdalene at the sepulcher, probably upon her second visit to it that morning (Jn. 20:11-18; Mk. 16:9-11)
3. To the apostle Peter, before the evening of the day of the resurrection, but under circumstances of which we have no detail (Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5)
4. To the two disciples, Cleopas and another, on the way to Emmaus, on the afternoon of the resurrection (Mk. 16:12-13; Lk. 4:13-35)
5. To the ten apostles, Thomas being absent, together with others whose names are not given, assembled together on the evening of the resurrection at their evening meal (Mk. 16:14-18; Lk. 24:36-40; Jn. 20:19-23; 1 Cor. 15:5)
6. One week later, to all eleven apostles (Jn. 20:26-28)
7. To several disciples at the Sea of Galilee while they were fishing (Jn. 21:1-23)
8. To the apostles, and above 500 brethren (Mt. 28:16-20; 1 Cor. 15:6)
9. To James (1 Cor. 15:7)
10. To the apostles at Jerusalem, immediately before the ascension (Mk. 16:19; Lk. 24:50-52; Acts 1:3-8)

Note: I would add Saul of Tarsus (Acts 9; 1 Cor. 15:8). BLG

The Resurrection of All

I. Predictions of the Resurrection of All

- A. Jn. 6:39, 40, 44, 54
- B. 1 Cor. 6:14
- C. 2 Cor. 4:14
- D. 1 Thes. 4:16

II. Proof of the Resurrection: the Resurrection of Christ, 1 Cor.15:12-13, 20

III. Time of the Resurrection

- A. 1 Thes. 4:16
- B. Jn. 11:24
- C. Jn. 5:28-29
- D. Acts 24:15
- E. Matt. 24:36

IV. Bodies at the Resurrection

- A. 1 Cor. 15:35-58
- B. 2 Cor. 5:1-5
- C. Phil. 3:20-21
- D. 1 Jn. 3:2

V. Consequences of No Resurrection, 1 Cor. 15:14-19