

CHRISTOLOGY – The Doctrine of Jesus Christ

Part 7 The Resurrection

The Gospel

1 Corinthians 15:1-4

...I declare to you the gospel...which also you received and...by which also you are saved:... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures

- He died for our sins: To make atonement
- He rose again: To prove the validity of His claims

John 8:24

Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins.”

- No sign except that of the prophet Jonah

Matthew 12:40

For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

- Destroy and rebuild the temple of His body

John 2:18-22

So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?” Jesus answered and said to them, “**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**” Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking of the temple of His body. Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

- Resurrection essential for salvation

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins!

Romans 1:4

and declared *to be* the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.

According to the Scriptures

Resurrection in the Old Testament

There is little about resurrection in the OT. That is not to say that it is not there. It is. But it is not prominent. ⁱ

Daniel 12:2

And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, Some to everlasting life, Some to shame *and* everlasting contempt.

Job 19:25-27

For I know *that* my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; And after my skin is

destroyed, this *I know*, That in my flesh I shall see God, Whom I shall see for myself, And my eyes shall behold, and not another. *How* my heart yearns within me!

Psalm 16:10 (*cf. Acts 2:25-28; 13:34-35*)

For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, Nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.

Isaiah 26:19

Your dead shall live; *Together with* my dead body they shall arise. Awake and sing, you who dwell in dust; For your dew *is like* the dew of herbs, And the earth shall cast out the dead.

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

- This is perhaps the best-known section in the Book of Isaiah. Several parts of this passage are quoted in the New Testament: Isaiah 52:15 in Romans 15:21; Isaiah 53:1 in John 12:38 and Romans 10:16; Isaiah 53:4 in Matthew 8:17; Isaiah 53:7-8 in Acts 8:32-33; Isaiah 53:9 in 1 Peter 2:22; and Isaiah 53:12 in Luke 22:37.ⁱⁱ

Resurrection Implied

- The Resurrection is implied in the fact that the OT prophecies predict the death of the Messiah and the eternal rule of the Messiah. Ps 22, Is 53 with Is 9:6 and Ps 110.

1 Peter 1:10-11

Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace *that would come* to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

Resurrection is prominent theme of New Testament

2 Timothy 1:10

...our Savior Jesus Christ, *who* has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel,

Matthew 27:57 – 28:20

3 days and 3 nights

- Literal 72 hours demands a Wednesday crucifixion
- Since the Jews reckoned part of a day as a full day, the “three days and three nights” could permit a Friday crucifixion.ⁱⁱⁱ
 - Cf. Esther 4:16 – 5:1
 - She requested 3 days of fasting and went in on the third day
 - Cf. Matthew 17:23 “raised on the third day”
 - If it was 72 hours it would have to be after or at the end of the third day

Bribery of the Soldiers

- With reference to the report which the Roman soldiers were bribed (Matt. 28:12–14) to circulate concerning Christ’s resurrection, “his disciples came by night and stole him away while we slept,” Matthew Henry in his “Commentary,” under John 20:1–10, fittingly remarks, “The grave-clothes in which Christ had been buried were found in very good order, which serves for an evidence that his body was not ‘stolen away while men

slept.’ Robbers of tombs have been known to take away ‘the clothes’ and leave the body; but none ever took away ‘the body’ and left the clothes, especially when they were ‘fine linen’ and new (Mark 15:46). Any one would rather choose to carry a dead body in its clothes than naked. Or if they that were supposed to have stolen it would have left the grave-clothes behind, yet it cannot be supposed they would find leisure to ‘fold up the linen.’”^{iv}

Resurrection events

Three women start for the tomb	Luke 23:55–24:1
They find the stone rolled away	Luke 24:2–9
Mary Magdalene hurries to tell the disciples	John 20:1–2
Mary, James’ mother, sees the angels	Matt. 28:1–2
Peter and John arrive, look in tomb	John 20:3–10
Mary Magalene returns, sees angels, then Jesus	John 20:11–18
Mary, James’ mother, returns with others	Luke 24:1–4
These women see the angels	Luke 24:5; Mark 16:5
Leaving, they too meet Jesus	Matt. 28:9–10

Other post-resurrection appearances of Jesus

To Peter, the same day	Luke 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:5
To disciples on the Emmaus road	Luke 24:13–31
To the apostles (minus Thomas)	Luke 24:36–45; John 20:19–25
To the apostles (including Thomas)	John 20:24–29
To seven by the Lake of Tiberias	John 21:1–23
To about 500 in Galilee	1 Cor. 15:6
To James in Jerusalem and Bethany	1 Cor. 15:7
To many at the Ascension	Acts 1:3–11
To Paul near Damascus	Acts 9:3–6; 1 Cor. 15:8
To Stephen when he is stoned	Acts 7:55
To Paul in the temple	Acts 22:17–19; 23:11
To John on Patmos	Rev. 1:10–19

Acts 1:3

to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Former Critics Convinced

- Simon Greenleaf, Royal Professor of law at Harvard University, examined the value of the historical evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ to ascertain the truth. This noted legal authority came to the conclusion that, according to the laws of legal evidence used in courts of law, “There is more evidence for the historical fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ than for just about any other event in history.”
- Testimony of Lord Lyndhurst (1772-1963 A.D.), recognized as one of the greatest legal minds In British history: "I know pretty well what evidence is; and I tell you, such evidence as that for the Resurrection has never broken down yet."

As He Lives, They Shall Live Also

- The Resurrection is also a pledge and an earnest of the resurrection of all believers

Romans 8:11

But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

1 Corinthians 6:14

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

1 Corinthians 15:47-49

The first man *was* of the earth, *made* of dust; the second Man *is* the Lord from heaven. As *was* the *man* of dust, so also *are* those *who are made* of dust; and as *is* the heavenly *Man*, so also *are* those *who are* heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the *man* of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly *Man*.

Philippians 3:21

who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.

1 John 3:2

Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

Ascension and Present Ministry

Acts 1:9-11

- Everlasting Intercessor

Hebrews 7:25

Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

- Needed Because of the Accuser

Revelation 12:9-10

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth...the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

- We Have and Advocate

1 John 2:1

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

ⁱWood, D. R. W. (1996, c1982, c1962). *New Bible Dictionary* (1010). InterVarsity Press.

ⁱⁱWalvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (1:1106). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

ⁱⁱⁱWalvoord, J. F., Zuck, R. B., & Dallas Theological Seminary. (1983-c1985). *The Bible knowledge commentary : An exposition of the scriptures* (2:47). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

^{iv}Easton, M. (1996, c1897). *Easton's Bible dictionary*. Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc.