

6. Jesus: His Resurrection

What sets Jesus apart from other religious leaders is His Resurrection. **His tomb is empty!** And that was necessary to prove His message of eternal life to all who believed in Him. But first, we need to establish that He was actually dead when they buried Him.

John 19

- 31 *Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.*
- 32 *Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him.*
- 33 *But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs.*
- 34 *But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.*
- 35 *And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe.*
- 36 *For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, "Not one of His bones shall be broken."*
- 37 *And again another Scripture says, "They shall look on Him whom they pierced."*
- 38 *After this, Joseph of Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly, for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus; and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took the body of Jesus.*
- 39 *And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds.*
- 40 *Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.*
- 41 *Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.*
- 42 *So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby.*

What elements in this eyewitness account proves Jesus died?

John 19:31-42 (Observations)

v31

Circle what Day it was.

Circle what should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath.

Underline what the Jews asked Pilate.

v32

Underline whose legs the soldiers broke. (*see below)

v33

Circle what they found about Jesus.

Circle what they did not do.

v34

Circle what one soldier did.

Circle what immediately came out.

v35

Circle whose testimony is true.

v36

Underline why these things were done.

Circle how many bones would be broken.

v37

Underline what another Scripture said.

v38

Circle who was a disciple of Jesus.

Underline why he kept it secret.

Circle whom he asked for Jesus' body.

Circle what Pilate gave him.

Circle what he came and took.

v39

Circle who came to Jesus by night.

Underline what he brought.

v40

Underline what they did to Jesus' body.

Circle why they did that.

v41

Underline where the garden was.

Circle what was in the garden.

Underline how the tomb is described.

v42

Underline why they lay Jesus' body there in the nearby tomb.

* **The cause of death** in Crucifixion is not the pain or loss of blood, but suffocation. After several days hanging on a cross, victims become unable to lift themselves up to take in a breath and so suffocate to death. Soldiers would break the legs to hasten death by preventing the victim from pushing up to breathe.

He is Risen!

John 20:

- 1 Now on the first day of the week
Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early,
while it was still dark,
and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb.
- 2 Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple,
whom Jesus loved,
and said to them,
"They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb,
and we do not know where they have laid Him."
- 3 Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple,
and were going to the tomb.
- 4 So they both ran together,
and the other disciple outran Peter
and came to the tomb first.
- 5 And he, stooping down and looking in,
saw the linen cloths lying there;
yet he did not go in.
- 6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb;
and he saw the linen cloths lying there,
and the handkerchief that had been around His head,
not lying with the linen cloths,
but folded together in a place by itself.
- 8 Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also;
and he saw and believed.
- 9 For as yet they did not know the Scripture,
that He must rise again from the dead.

What causes you to believe this testimony? _____

John 14:19

A little while longer and the world will see Me no more,
but you will see Me.
Because I live, you will live also.

Explain the first part of this verse. _____

How does this verse express the importance of Jesus' Resurrection?

John 20:1-9 (Observations)

v1

Underline when this takes place.

Circle who went to the tomb early.

Circle what it was still.

Underline what she saw.

v2

Circle who she ran to.

Underline how the other disciple is described.

Underline what she initially said about the Lord.

Circle what they did not know.

v3

Underline what Peter and the other disciple did.

v4

Circle what they did together.

Underline what the other disciple did.

v5

Underline what he saw.

Circle what he did not do.

v6-7

Circle what Peter did.

Circle each thing Peter saw.

v8

Circle the three things the other disciple did.

v9

Circle what they did not know.

Underline what they did not know.

John 14:19 (Observations)

Underline what Jesus said will happen in a little while.

Circle what the disciples will see.

Circle what Jesus says will guarantee His disciples will live.

If you suffer from premature baldness, would you buy a lotion being sold on late night TV called "Bald No More" if it was sold by a similarly bald guy like yourself? Of course not! You would yell at the TV screen, "You grow hair on your head first, buddy!" As they say, "The proof is in the pudding." **Jesus** claimed to be the "Resurrection and the Life". Why would we believe Him if He was still in the tomb?

(continued)

John 20

- 19 *Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you."*
- 20 *When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.*
- 24 *Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.*
- 25 *The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."*
- 26 *And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"*
- 27 *Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."*
- 28 *And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"*
- 29 *Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*

All of the disciples, except for John, were killed proclaiming that Jesus rose from the dead. How does this prove the above passage is true?

Why are those who believe without seeing "blessed"? _____

John 20:19-29 (Observations)

v19

Underline what day it was.

Circle why the doors were shut.

Circle who came into their midst.

Underline what He said. (Why?)

v20

Circle what He showed them.

Underline why the disciples were glad.

v24

Underline who was not there.

v25

Circle what the disciples said to him.

Circle each condition Thomas made.

Underline Thomas' resolve.

v26

Underline where the disciples were eight days later.

Circle who was with them this time.

Circle who came despite the shut doors.

v27

Circle to whom Jesus speaks.

Circle each thing Jesus asks of him.

(Compare to Thomas' conditions v25)

Underline Jesus' exhortation.

v28

Circle the two things Thomas said to Jesus.

v29

Underline why Thomas believed.

Circle what Jesus calls those who believe without seeing.

(continued)

1 Corinthians 15:

- 3 **For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,**
- 4 **and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,**
- 5 **and that He was seen by Peter, then by the twelve.**
- 6 **After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once,**
of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.
- 7 **After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles.**
- 8 **Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.**

From this list, approximately how many people saw Jesus alive?

The Bible's standard for a trustworthy testimony is that it have the support of "two or three witnesses". What does this say about the Resurrection of Jesus Christ?

How does verse 6 argue against the risen Jesus being an hallucination as some have suggested? _____

How would a person disprove the Resurrection of Jesus?

How do you know Jesus rose from the dead? _____

1 Corinthians 15:3-8 (Observations)

v3-4
Circle what Paul delivered 'first of all.'
Circle all the things that happened 'according to the Scriptures.' (Why does Paul use this phrase?)

v5-7
Circle each of the people mentioned who saw Jesus after He rose.
Underline Paul's commentary on the five hundred brethren.

v8
Circle who saw Him last.
Underline Paul's comment about himself. (Why does he say that?)

While visiting villages in Papua New Guinea, I would sometimes be told by the local people that I had just missed seeing Jesus Who had visited them the week before. Spirits and angels were also a common sight for them, although not for me for some reason. It would certainly be an experience to actually see the risen Lord, but so far, God has not allowed me that blessing. But I still believe Jesus rose, based on the testimony of hundreds of others in the Bible who saw Him alive, and who touched Him and spoke with Him. Many of them were tortured and even killed for their testimony. How shall I then disavow their witness? God forbid!
I believe Jesus Christ is alive because of it!

While visiting Jerusalem on my own, I made it a point to visit the two traditional sites of Jesus' Tomb. One located in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the other in the tranquil Garden Tomb just north of the Damascus Gate outside the Northern Wall of the Old City. In fact I visited the Garden Tomb every morning to pray and meditate. The graves and the locations of the remains of the Founders of the Great Religions are accounted for, except for one, for His Tomb is empty! **Jesus is not there for He has risen!**