

**Did Jesus Rise
from the Dead
RESURRECTION**

Why is the Resurrection so important to us?

** Every Christian has eternal life; this is what Jesus came to give. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whosoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.(John 3:16)*

Why is the Resurrection so important to us?

** The basis for eternal life is the Resurrection!*

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live." (John 11:25)

He also said, "He who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life" (John 5:24)

Paul said, "The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 6:23)

Why is the Resurrection so important to us?

** Christians get power from the resurrection.*

Paul prayed that the Ephesian Christians would understand "what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead." (Ephesians 1:19-20)

Luke 23:50 – 24:49

A historical case for Jesus' resurrection will involve two steps:

- 1. Determining what is the evidence to be explained*
- 2. Inferring which explanation of the evidence is the best explanation.*

First, the evidence: there are three independently established facts:

- 1. Jesus' empty tomb*
 - A. The fact of Jesus' empty tomb*

1 Cor. 15:3-5 Acts 13:28-31

*Christ died... Though they found no cause for a
a loud cry and*

Mark 15:37-16:7

*And Jesus gave
sentence of death, they asked Pilate
to have him killed. breathed his last.*

he was buried... They took him down from the tree Joseph
bought a linen cloth, and taking down the
and laid him in a tomb. body,, wrapped it in the linen
cloth and laid it in a tomb.

he was raised... But God raised him from the dead... "He has been
raised, he is not here. Look, there is the place
they laid him."

he appeared... ...and for many days he appeared to "But go, tell his
disciples and those who came up with him to Galilee Peter that he is
going ahead of to Jerusalem, and they are now his you to Galilee; there
you will witnesses to the people. see him."

First, the evidence: there are three independently established facts:

1. *Jesus' empty tomb*

- A. *The fact of Jesus' empty tomb*
- B. *Independent reports of the empty tomb.*
- C. *The Women's discovery*

2. Jesus' appearance alive after His death

(Paul's account in 1 Corinthians 15:3-8)

- A. *He appeared to Peter*
- B. *He appeared to the Twelve*
- C. *He appeared to 500 brethren*
- D. *He appeared to James (Acts 1:14)*
- E. *He appeared to "all of the apostles." (Acts 1:21-22)*
- F. *He appeared to me (Paul) (Acts: 9: 1-9)*

3. The origin of the disciples belief in His resurrection

The very origin of the Christian faith depends on the belief of the earliest disciples that God had raised Jesus of Nazareth from the dead.

Peter said, "This man...God raised...let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and messiah, this Jesus who you crucified." (Acts 2:23-36)

Both the Father and the Son participated in the resurrection.

"The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." (John 10:17-18)

"I am the resurrection and the life." (John 11:25)

Christ's resurrection ensures our regeneration

"We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life....So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus." (Romans 6:4,11)

Christ's resurrection ensures our justification.

Paul said that "Jesus was put to death for our trespasses and raised for our justification." Rom 4:25

Christ's resurrection ensures that we will receive perfect resurrection bodies.

If then you have been raised with Christ, see the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is his with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (Col. 3:1-4)