

The Bodily Resurrection

INTRO:

The only religion that claims a resurrected savior is Christianity. Our whole theology rests on the claim that Jesus was crucified, buried and raised from the dead. Paul in his epistle to the Romans gives this assurance to the believer.

“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.” Romans 8:11

The New Testament is infused with the teaching of Jesus’ resurrection. Matthew 16:21; Luke 7:22; John 12:9; Romans 10:9; 2 Corinthians 4:14; 2 Timothy 2:8.

Following Jesus’ resurrection and immediately after his encounter with the couple on the road to Emaus, he presents himself to his disciples at a gathering in Jerusalem. Luke 24: 36-46 records this incident.

I. Jesus is bodily resurrected. Touch Me. Luke 24:36-46 NKJV

³⁶ Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, “Peace to you.” ³⁷ But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, “Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts?”

A. Handle me! V39-40

³⁹ Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have.”⁴⁰ When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.

B. Feed me! V41-43

⁴¹ But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, “Have you any food here?” ⁴² So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. ⁴³ And He took *it* and ate in their presence.

C. Learn from me! V44-46

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.” ⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,

II. The resurrection is **scriptural**. 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 NKJV

15 Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, ² by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.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,

A. The resurrection cannot be **separated** from the gospel. V1-2

1. Paul boldly preached the gospel.
2. The Corinthians had joyfully accepted the gospel.
3. They are encouraged to stand firm in their belief.

B. Paul explains the gospel. V3-4

1. Jesus **died** for our sins.
2. Jesus was **buried**.
3. Jesus **rose** on the third day.

1 Corinthians 15:5-6 ⁵ and that He was seen by Cephas, 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.

A. The resurrected Christ was seen openly by **hundreds** of people.

B. Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 15:8 ⁸ *Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time*; complete the roster of resurrection eyewitnesses, affirming a real, historical appearance of the risen Jesus to Paul himself.

C. Though he views his calling as sudden and undeserved, the same risen Lord who met earlier disciples met Paul, proving the universality of grace and sealing the authoritative testimony that "Christ has indeed been raised from the dead" (1 Corinthians 15:20).

III. The resurrection had a **purpose**. - 1 Corinthians 15:14-15 NKJV

¹⁴ And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. ¹⁵ Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise.

A. Empty **preaching**. V14

B. Empty **faith**. V14

C. **False** witnesses. V15