

“RAISE THE DEAD!”
(2018 Resurrection Day Series)
Studies in 1 Corinthians 15

HE IS RISEN!
(You Better Believe It)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11

The Biblical Record

“...For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that **Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures**, and that **He was buried**, and that **He arose again the third day according to the Scriptures...**” **(15:1-4)**

Also: Genesis 3:15; Job 19:25-27
Psalm 22, 69; Isaiah 50-53
Daniel 9:25-26; Zechariah 9:9, 12:10, 13:7

The Eye-Witnesses

“...**He (Jesus) seen** by Cephas (Peter), then by the twelve. 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. Then last of all **He was seen by me** also, as by one born out of due time...” **(15:5-8)**

Also: The women disciples/ *Matthew 28:1-10*
Holy angels/ *Mark 16:1-7*
Emmaus disciples/ *Luke 24:13-36*
Doubters Mary Magdalene & Thomas / *John 20*
The Upper Room group/ *Acts 1:12-15*

The Material Evidence

“...I (Paul) persecuted the church of God. But **by the grace of God I am what I am**....yet not I, but the grace of God within me...Therefore ...**we preach and you believed**” **(15:9-11)**

Also: The changed lives of the apostles,
other disciples, and martyrs
for over 20 centuries whose lives
have been radically transformed
by what they believe to be the Spirit
of the risen Lord Jesus Christ

JESUS' APPEARANCES AFTER HIS RESURRECTION

Jesus appeared to

1. Mary Magdalene.....*Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18*
2. The other women at the tomb.....*Matthew 28:8-10*
3. Peter in Jerusalem.....*Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5*
4. The two travelers on the road.....*Mark 16:12-13; Luke 24:13-35*
5. Ten disciples behind closed doors.....*Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-25*
6. All eleven disciples (including Thomas).... *Mark 16:14; John 20:26-31; 1 Corinthians 15:5*
7. Seven disciples while fishing on the Sea of Galilee..... *John 21:1-14*
8. Eleven disciples on a mountain in Galilee.....*Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 16:15-18*
9. More than 500 believers..... *1 Corinthians 15:6*
10. Jesus' brother James..... *1 Corinthians 15:7*
11. Those who watched Jesus ascend into heaven*Mark 16:19-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:3-9*

WHY IS THE RESURRECTION SO IMPORTANT?

The resurrection of Jesus from the dead is the central fact of Christian history. On it, the church is built; without it, there would be no Christian church today. Jesus' resurrection is unique. Other religions have strong ethical systems, concepts about paradise and afterlife, and various holy Scriptures. Only Christianity has a God who became human, literally died for His people, and was raised again in power and glory to rule His church forever.

Why is the Resurrection so important?

- Because Christ was raised from the dead, we know that the kingdom of heaven has broken into earth's history. Our world is now headed for redemption, not disaster. God's mighty power is at work destroying sin, creating new lives, and preparing us for Jesus' second coming.
- Because of the Resurrection, we know that death has been conquered, and we too will be raised from the dead to live forever with Christ.
- The Resurrection gives authority to the church's witness in the world. Look at the early evangelistic sermons in the book of Acts: The apostles' most important message was the proclamation that Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead!
- The Resurrection helps us find meaning even in great tragedy. No matter what happens to us as we walk with the Lord, the Resurrection gives us hope for the future.
- The Resurrection assures us that Christ is alive and ruling His kingdom. He is not legend; He is alive and real.
- God's power that brought Jesus back from the dead is available to us so that we can live for Him in an evil world.
- Christians can look very differently from one another and can hold widely varying beliefs about politics, lifestyle, and theology. But one central belief unites and inspires all true Christians--

Jesus Christ has risen from the dead!!!