

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

The base document that follows is the work of Pastor Robert Sargent of Bible Baptist Publications of Oak Harbor, Washington. We have taken the time to incorporate every passage of Scripture that he called out in his original document.

The resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ was the greatest demonstration of the power of God ever — *Romans 1:4*. Moreover, it is by this power that a lost sinner is born again (*Romans 1:16*) and a believer enabled to live (*Philippians 3:10*.)

Romans 1:4

4 And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

Romans 1:16

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Philippians 3:10

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

Without the resurrection of our Lord, His crucifixion would have been meaningless and a tragic defeat. If Christ did not rise from the dead we would NEVER KNOW if His sacrifice was sufficient to save, *I Corinthians 15:14*.

1 Corinthians 15:14

14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

But Christ DID rise! In fact, the resurrection is one of the best authenticated facts of history. Over 100 times the Word of God directly speaks of the resurrection of Christ.

I. THE TESTIMONY FOR THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

The account of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is given in each of the Gospels. This in itself is significant, because:

A. The Gospels Give Eye-Witness Accounts.

They are not second- or third- hand. They represent the most accurate form of narration.

B. The Gospels Give Straight-Forward Accounts.

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There is a remarkable absence of embellishment, coloring, or mysticism associated with this supernatural event.

C. The Gospels Give Four Separate And Independent Accounts.

If there was collusion between the writers, we would have four stories which, on the surface, would appear in precise harmony — they would need to be carefully studied to find discrepancies.

In actual fact, there are four accounts which, on the surface, appear to have discrepancies — they need to be studied to find harmony!

It is absolutely incredible that 4 men sitting down in 4 locations at 4 different times to write 4 accounts of an event which never happened could produce 4 stories which agree as they do. The only explanation is that the resurrection did happen.

II. THE EVIDENCE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

A. The Empty Tomb.

Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:3; John 20:1 -10.

Matthew 28:1-8

In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*. 5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. 8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.

Mark 16:1-8

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. 2 And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. 3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. 5 And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. 6 And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was

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crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. 7 But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you. 8 And they went out quickly, and fled from the sepulchre; for they trembled and were amazed: neither said they any thing to any *man*; for they were afraid.

Luke 24:3

3 And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

John 20:1-10

The first *day* of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, *and looking in*, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home.

B. The Many Post-Resurrection Appearances Of Christ.

1. To Mary — *John 20:16.*

John 20:16

16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master.

2. To The Women — *Matthew 28:5-9*

Matthew 28:5-9

5 And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. 6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you. 8 And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word. 9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

3. To Peter — *Luke 24:34.*

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Luke 24:34

34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

4. To Two On The Road To Emmaus — *Luke 24:13-35.*

Luke 24:13-35

13 And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem *about* threescore furlongs. 14 And they talked together of all these things which had happened. 15 And it came to pass, that, while they communed *together* and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them. 16 But their eyes were holden that they should not know him. 17 And he said unto them, What manner of communications *are* these that ye have one to another, as ye walk, and are sad? 18 And the one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answering said unto him, Art thou only a stranger in Jerusalem, and hast not known the things which are come to pass there in these days? 19 And he said unto them, What things? And they said unto him, Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, which was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people: 20 And how the chief priests and our rulers delivered him to be condemned to death, and have crucified him. 21 But we trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel: and beside all this, to day is the third day since these things were done. 22 Yea, and certain women also of our company made us astonished, which were early at the sepulchre; 23 And when they found not his body, they came, saying, that they had also seen a vision of angels, which said that he was alive. 24 And certain of them which were with us went to the sepulchre, and found *it* even so as the women had said: but him they saw not. 25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. 28 And they drew nigh unto the village, whither they went: and he made as though he would have gone further. 29 But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them. 30 And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake, and gave to them. 31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. 32 And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? 33 And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, 34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. 35 And they told what things *were done* in the way, and how he was known of them in breaking of bread.

5. To The Disciples In The Upper Room — *John 20:19.*

John 20:19

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, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace *be* unto you.

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6. To The Disciples And Thomas — *John 20:26-29.*

John 20:26-29

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you. 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.

7. To John And Peter — *John 21:5-7.*

John 21:5-7

5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt *his* fisher's coat *unto him*, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

8. To The Eleven — *Matthew 28:16; Acts 1:4*

Matthew 28:16

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

Acts 1:4

4 And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

9. To A Whole Company Of Believers — *I Corinthians 15:4-7.*

1 Corinthians 15:4-8

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: 5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: 6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. 7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. 8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

10. To Paul — *I Corinthians 15:8*

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C. The Changed Lives Of The Apostles.

e.g. Peter the “denier of Christ” became the great “preacher of Christ.”

D. The Resurrection Preaching Of The Apostles.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was central to the Gospel preaching recorded in the Book of Acts. See: *Acts 2:32; 3:15; 4:2, 10; 5:31; 10:40; 13:30,37; 17:31,32.*

Acts 2:32

32 This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Acts 3:15

15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

Acts 4:2,10

2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, *even* by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

Acts 5:31

31 Him hath God exalted with his right hand *to be* a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Acts 10:40

40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;

Acts 13:30,37

30 But God raised him from the dead: 37 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

Acts 17:31-32

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead. 32 And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this *matter*.

E. The Institution Of The First Day Of The Week.

The **first** day of the week, Sunday, or the “Lord’s Day” is the resurrection day. The “Sabbath” is the seventh day—and still is!! Saturday!

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Christians do not hold to Sunday as the Christian Sabbath, but it evident that the early churches began meeting on this day. See: *Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:2.*

Acts 20:7

7 And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.

1 Corinthians 16:2

2 Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as *God* hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

F. The Witness Of Jesus Christ Himself.

Revelation 1:18.

Revelation 1:18

18 *I am* he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

III. THE NATURE OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

A. Negatively Considered.

1. It Was Not A Resuscitation.

Some believe Christ swooned on the cross and was revived by the coolness of the tomb.

The Bible gives abundant evidence that He was dead. See: *Mark 15:37,43-45; John 19:31-34,38-40.*

Mark 15:37,43-45

37 And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. 43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus. 44 And Pilate marvelled if he were already dead: and calling *unto him* the centurion, he asked him whether he had been any while dead. 45 And when he knew *it* of the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph.

John 19:31-34,38-40

31 The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the sabbath day, (for that sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away. 32 Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the

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first, and of the other which was crucified with him. 33 But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: 34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. 38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave *him* leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound *weight*. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.

2. It Was Not An Hallucination.

The disciples had not been eating mushrooms. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb expecting to anoint a dead body—she did not expect to meet her risen Savior. *Mark 16:9; John 20:1-18*

Mark 16:9

9 Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

John 20:1-18

The first *day* of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre. 2 Then she runneth, and cometh to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and saith unto them, They have taken away the Lord out of the sepulchre, and we know not where they have laid him. 3 Peter therefore went forth, and that other disciple, and came to the sepulchre. 4 So they ran both together: and the other disciple did outrun Peter, and came first to the sepulchre. 5 And he stooping down, *and looking in*, saw the linen clothes lying; yet went he not in. 6 Then cometh Simon Peter following him, and went into the sepulchre, and seeth the linen clothes lie, 7 And the napkin, that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes, but wrapped together in a place by itself. 8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed. 9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead. 10 Then the disciples went away again unto their own home. 11 But Mary stood without at the sepulchre weeping: and as she wept, she stooped down, *and looked* into the sepulchre, 12 And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. 13 And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him. 14 And when she had thus said, she turned herself back, and saw Jesus standing, and knew not that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away. 16 Jesus saith unto her, Mary. She turned herself, and saith unto him, Rabboni; which is to say, Master. 17 Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and *to my God*, and your God. 18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she

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had seen the Lord, and *that* he had spoken these things unto her.

3. It Was Not A Spiritual Materialization.
No “seance” was involved. Christ rose bodily from the dead— *Luke 24:39*;
John 20:24-29.

Luke 24:39

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

John 20:24-29

24 But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.

26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: *then* came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace *be* unto you. 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing. 28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. 29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed *are* they that have not seen, and *yet* have believed.

4. It Was Not A Myth.
The Jews at first did everything to prevent a “religious myth” from eventuating — *Matthew 27:62-66*; then later attempted to perpetrate a myth — *Matthew 28:12-14*.

Matthew 27:62-66

62 Now the next day, that followed the day of the preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees came together unto Pilate, 63 Saying, Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, while he was yet alive, After three days I will rise again. 64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. 65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make *it* as sure as ye can. 66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

Matthew 28:12-14

12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, 13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him *away* while we slept. 14 And if this come to the governor’s ears, we will persuade him, and secure you.

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5. It Was Not A Removal Of Christ's Body.

Some hold that the dead body of the Lord Jesus Christ was removed, and the “resurrection” was subsequently concocted.

If this were the case, the question must then be asked, “Who took the body?”

In answer, there are only 5 possibilities:

a. The Disciples Took It.

This theory claims that the disciples either over-powered or sneaked past the guards, removed the body of Christ from the tomb, and disposed of it elsewhere.

Three things make this a fanciful assumption —the “sentinels,” the “seal,” and the “stone.” See: *Matthew 27:64-66.*

Matthew 27:64-66

64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. 65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make *it* as sure as ye can. 66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

Besides, the Bible says the disciples were dispersed immediately after the crucifixion—Matthew 26:56,58

Matthew 26:56-58

56 But all this was done, that the scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled. Then all the disciples forsook him, and fled. 57 And they that had laid hold on Jesus led *him* away to Caiaphas the high priest, where the scribes and the elders were assembled. 58 But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end.

When the resurrected Savior did appear to them, they were amazed, some in unbelief— *Luke 24:9-12; John 20:8,9.*

Luke 24:9-12

9 And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest. 10 It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and other *women that were* with them, which told these things unto the apostles. 11 And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not. 12 Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.

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John 20:8-9

8 Then went in also that other disciple, which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw, and believed.
9 For as yet they knew not the scripture, that he must rise again from the dead.

b. The Two Marys Took It.

Some claim these two women executed an early Sunday morning “sting!”

According to *Matthew 27:60*, the stone was “great” in size. Historians say such a stone would require several men to move it. Two women were physically unable to perform such a feat —*Mark 16:1-4*.

Matthew 27:60

60 And laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock: and he rolled a great stone to the door of the sepulchre, and departed.

Mark 16:1-4

And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the *mother* of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. 2 And very early in the morning the first *day* of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. 3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.

c. Joseph Of Arimathaea Took It.

Others theorize that Joseph decided not to keep Jesus in his tomb, and so removed the body.

It is interesting to note that Joseph, along with Nicodemus, was both a *secret* disciple of Christ’s **and** a member of the Jewish Sanhedrin — *Matthew 27:57; Mark 15:43*. According to *Luke 23:50*, he was also a “good man, and a just...” If he had removed the body, he would have said so to either the Jews or the disciples.

Matthew 27:57

57 When the even was come, there came a rich man of Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus’ disciple:

Mark 15:43

43 Joseph of Arimathaea, an honourable counsellor, which also waited for the kingdom of God, came, and went in boldly unto Pilate, and craved the body of Jesus.

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Luke 23:50

50 And, behold, *there was* a man named Joseph, a counsellor; *and he was* a good man, and a just:

He had gone to a lot of trouble *John 19:38-40* — it would seem strange for him to change his mind.

John 19:38-40

38 And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave *him* leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound *weight*. 40 Then took they the body of Jesus, and wound it in linen clothes with the spices, as the manner of the Jews is to bury.

d. The Jews Took It.

Of all people who would want the body of Jesus, it would have been the Jewish religious leaders. However, we note firstly that they did make every attempt to hold the body —*Matthew 27:64,66*; secondly, upon learning of the empty tomb they concocted a story —*Matthew 28:12,13* — *why* not call for the arrest and interrogation of the disciples, and *why* pay out a lot of money in bribes if they knew where the body was?; and thirdly, 7 weeks later, when the apostles were winning thousands of converts through preaching the resurrection, *why* not produce the body???

Matthew 27:64-66

64 Command therefore that the sepulchre be made sure until the third day, lest his disciples come by night, and steal him away, and say unto the people, He is risen from the dead: so the last error shall be worse than the first. 65 Pilate said unto them, Ye have a watch: go your way, make *it* as sure as ye can. 66 So they went, and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone, and setting a watch.

Matthew 28:12-13

12 And when they were assembled with the elders, and had taken counsel, they gave large money unto the soldiers, 13 Saying, Say ye, His disciples came by night, and stole him *away* while we slept.

e. The Roman Soldiers Took It.

Some would have us believe that the disciples bribed the soldiers who were guarding the tomb. To this theory, there are three answers:

i. The disciples were probably too poor to pay a bribe.

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- ii. For the soldiers to remove the body, it meant direct disobedience to their orders — Roman army discipline for sleeping at their posts, accepting bribes, or breaking the seal would mean death without trial.
- iii. The Romans were out to keep the peace — why be the cause of an uproar??

The only conclusion is that Jesus Christ rose from the dead,
AS HE SAID!!!

B. Positively Considered.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was personal, visible, and bodily.

- 1. Jesus Rose Personally From The Dead.
Matthew 28:6; John 21:7.

Matthew 28:6

6 He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

John 21:7

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt *his* fisher's coat *unto him*, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

- 2. Jesus Rose Bodily From The Dead.
Matthew 28:9; John 20:20,27.

Matthew 28:9

9 And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.

John 20:20,27

20 And when he had so said, he shewed unto them *his* hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. 27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust *it* into my side: and be not faithless, but believing.

- 3. Jesus Rose Visibly From The Dead.
Mark 16:9,12,14; Luke 24:34; John 20:18.

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Mark 16:9,12-14

9 Now when *Jesus* was risen early the first *day* of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils. 12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country. 13 And they went and told *it* unto the residue: neither believed they them. 14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.

Luke 24:34

34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

John 20:18

18 Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, and *that* he had spoken these things unto her.

VI. THE MEANS OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was accomplished by the power of the triune God.

A. He Was Raised By The Father.

Romans 6:4; 10:9; Ephesians 1:17-20.

Romans 6:4

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Romans 10:9

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

Ephesians 1:17-20

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, 19 And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,

B. He Arose By His Own Power.

John 10:18

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John 10:18

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

C. He Was Quickened By The Holy Ghost.

Romans 8:11; 1 Peter 3:18

Romans 8:11

11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

1 Peter 3:18

18 For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:

V. THE RESURRECTION BODY OF JESUS CHRIST

A. In Some Ways It Was Different From His Former Body.

1. Mary Did Not Recognize Him Immediately.

John 20:15.

John 20:15

15 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? whom seekest thou? She, supposing him to be the gardener, saith unto him, Sir, if thou have borne him hence, tell me where thou hast laid him, and I will take him away.

2. His Disciples Did Not Recognize Him At The Sea Shore.

John 21:4-7.

John 21:4-7

4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes. 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt *his* fisher's coat *unto him*, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.

3. It Evidently Had Some Variableness In Form.

Mark 16:12.

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Mark 16:12

12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.

B. In Some Ways It Was Similar To His Former Body.

1. It Was Flesh And Bone.
Luke 24:39.

Luke 24:39

39 Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.

2. He Could Partake Of Food.
Luke 24:42,43.

Luke 24:42-43

42 And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. 43 And he took *it*, and did eat before them.

3. He Could Be Recognized At Times.
John 20:28

John 20:28

28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.

C. It Was Not Hindered By The Natural Law.

1. He Could Pass Through Matter.
John 20:19.

John 20:19

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, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace *be* unto you.

2. He Could Disappear.
Luke 24:31.

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Luke 24:31

31 And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

3. He Was Not Limited By Natural Laws.
Acts 1:9.

Acts 1:9

9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.

VI. THE RESULTS OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

A. With Reference To Jesus Christ.

1. It Affirmed His Deity — *Romans 1:4.*

Romans 1:4

4 And declared *to be* the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

2. It Vindicated His Sinless Life — *Romans 5 :12,19.*

Romans 5:12,19

12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

3. It Made His Intercessory Work Possible — *Romans 8:34.*

Romans 8:34

34 Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

B. With Reference To The Word Of God.

Christ's resurrection fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies tat Christ would rise again.

Job 19:25; Psalm 16:10; Isaiah 53:10-12. See also: Matthew 16:21; 26:32; Mark 8:31-34; 9:9; John 2:19-22.

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Job 19:25

25 For I know *that* my redeemer liveth, and *that* he shall stand at the latter *day* upon the earth:

Psalms 16:10

10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Isaiah 53:10-12

10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put *him* to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see *his* seed, he shall prolong *his* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. 11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. 12 Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Matthew 16:21

21 From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Matthew 26:32

32 But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

Mark 8:31-34

31 And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and *of* the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him. 33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men. 34 And when he had called the people *unto him* with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mark 9:9

9 And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead.

John 2:19-22

19 Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up. 20 Then said the Jews, Forty and six years was this temple in building, and wilt thou rear it up in three days? 21 But he spake of the temple of his body. 22 When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word

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which Jesus had said.

C. With Reference To The Lost.

1. It Is God's Token Of Judgment — *Acts 17:31*.

Acts 17:31

31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

2. It Offers Salvation — *Romans 4:25; 10:9*.

Romans 4:25

25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

Romans 10:9

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

D. With Reference To Israel.

- Christ's resurrection fulfills the promise of God to the nation of Israel — *Acts 13:32, 33*.

Acts 13:32-33

32 And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, 33 God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee.

E. With Reference To The Believer.

1. It Is Proof Of Our Justification — *Romans 4:24,25*.

Romans 4:24-25

24 But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; 25 Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

2. It Is The Hope Of Our Own Resurrection — *I Corinthians 15:20-22; II Corinthians 4:14; I Peter 1:3,4*.

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1 Corinthians 15:20-22

20 But now is Christ risen from the dead, *and* become the firstfruits of them that slept. 21 For since by man *came* death, by man *came* also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

2 Corinthians 4:14

14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present *us* with you.

1 Peter 1:3-4

3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

3. It Is The Basis Of Our New Life In Christ — *Romans 6:4-10; 7:14.*

Romans 6:4-10

4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also *in the likeness* of *his* resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with *him*, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God.

Romans 7:14

14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

4. It Gives Us Power For Fruitful, Victorious Christian Living — *Philippians 3:10.*

Philippians 3:10

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

5. It Reveals The Nature Of Our Resurrection Body — *Philippians 3:21; I John 3:1-3.*

Philippians 3:21

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according

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to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

1 John 3:1-3

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

6. It Gives Us Power For Our Witness — *I Corinthians 15:12-15.*

1 Corinthians 15:12-15

12 Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: 14 And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain. 15 Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

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STUDY QUESTIONS

Read: Bancroft pp. 189-200

1. Why is the resurrection an essential and vital part of God's plan of salvation?
2. Approximately how many times does the Bible mention the resurrection of Christ?
3. How are we sure that the writers of the 4 Gospels did not collude in writing their accounts of the resurrection of Jesus Christ?
4. Cite 5 post-resurrection appearances of the Lord Jesus Christ.
5. What does the first day of the week commemorate?
6. Give 3 false "explanations" of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
7. Give a Scripture reference showing the resurrection of Christ was a "bodily" resurrection.

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8. Give a Scripture reference showing the resurrection of Christ was a “visible” resurrection.
9. Cite 2 things which were different about the resurrection body of Christ.
10. Give 2 things the resurrection of Jesus Christ affirmed and vindicated concerning Himself.
11. State 3 things the resurrection of Jesus Christ means to the believer.
12. Why was the stone sealing the tomb of Christ rolled away?
13. Give 5 contrasts between the Sabbath Day and the Lord’s Day.
14. What was the promise made to the fathers which is fulfilled by the resurrection of Christ?