



Why Should I Believe In The Resurrection?

Selected Scripture

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the foundation of our faith. The following reasons should strengthen your faith in the resurrection. They should help you defend the truth of Christ's resurrection. If you are a seeker, carefully consider these arguments. Belief in the resurrection is not a blind leap of faith into the unknown. It is a faith grounded on fact; it is a faith built on the truth.

I. The Fatal Torment Of Jesus

Matthew 27:48-50

Immediately one of them ran and took a sponge, filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink. 49The rest said, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him." 50And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

John 19:30

So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

John 19:33-34

33But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. 34But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

II. The Empty Tomb

Matthew 28:5-7

5But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who 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 indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you."

Mark 16:6-7

6But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. 7"But go, tell His disciples—and Peter—that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

Luke 24:5-7

Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? 6"He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, 7"saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.' "

1 Corinthians 15:3-7

3For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

Matthew 23:29

Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous.

Matthew 28:11-15

11Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. 12When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' 14"And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure." 15So they took the money and did as they were in-



structed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

III. The Appearances Of Christ

1 Corinthians 15:4-8

4and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6After 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. 7After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. 8Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

John 20:19-20

19Then, 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." 20When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

Acts 1:3

To whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

Acts 2:29-32

"Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30"Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, 31"he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. 32"Thus Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.

IV. The Transformation Of People

Matthew 26:73-75

And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you." 74Then he began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. 75And Peter remembered the word of Jesus who had said to him, "Before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times." So he went out and wept bitterly.

Acts 2:14

14But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words.

Acts 9:1-2

1Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Galatians 1:13

For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it.

Questions For Meditation:

- What is the strongest proof of Christ's resurrection?
- How can you defend the truth of Christ's resurrection?
- Why should you trust Jesus Christ and give your life to Him right now?

