

Christology

Lesson 12 Study Notes

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

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Text: I Corinthians 15:3-22.

Introduction: The text makes the argument that if Christ has not risen from the dead then several things must be considered. Christ would still be in the grave, Christ would be a liar, his disciples were deceived, their preaching would have been in vain, even our faith is vain. We are found as false witnesses, the Christian church is a farce, our salvation experience is purely imagination, we are still in our sins, we will perish like animals, and we are of all men most miserable.

Hallelujah He is risen from the dead and is our hope for all ages!

1Corinthians 15:20 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.

There is no other single _____ in all the Bible so hated by _____ as the resurrection of Christ. Satan and his followers have ridiculed it; downplayed it, tried to deny it, and just simply have tried to _____.

Consider these statements found in Scripture:

Acts 1:3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

Acts 10:39 And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree: 40 Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly; 41 Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

Acts 13:29 And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a sepulchre. 30 But God raised him from the dead: 31 And he was seen many days of them which came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are his witnesses unto the people.

As we look at these statements, they seem to imply that during the _____ between Christ's resurrection and ascension He made many appearances beside those recorded, and thus His post-resurrection ministry may have been greater than we know.

I. Some False Theories About the Resurrection of Christ.

A. The _____ theory.

This says that either Jesus or His disciples (or both) simply invented the entire thing. It would have us believe that Christ was simply a clever crook who read the prophecies regarding the Messiah in the Old Testament and set about arranging for them to be fulfilled by Himself.

If the Disciples took away the dead body of Jesus; what did they want with it dead, what could they do with it dead, and what purpose would it answer for them?

B. The _____ theory.

We are informed here that Christ merely fainted on the cross and was later revived by the cool, dark air of the tomb. But how would He get out of the tomb passed the Roman soldiers placed there to guard.

C. The _____ theory.

This would advocate that the early disciples were guilty of using some kind of primitive LSD. If this be true, then the practice was widespread, for on one occasion alone over 500 claimed to have seen Him.

D. The _____ theory.

This holds that only His spirit arose. But Jesus is said to have eaten in His resurrected body. And Thomas is invited to see the nail prints; and riven side.

E. The _____ theory.

Here we are to believe that He was only resurrected in the hearts of His friends. However, many of His friends did not believe He had risen from the dead until they saw Him for themselves.

II. The Old Testament Predicted His Resurrection.

Psalm 16:10 For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Note: The fulfilment.

Acts 13:35 Wherefore he saith also in another psalm, Thou shalt not suffer thine Holy One to see corruption. 36 For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption: 37 But he, whom God raised again, saw no corruption.

Isaiah 53:9 And he made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. 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.

III. Jesus by His Own Testimony Said He Would Rise Again.

Matthew 16:21 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.

Mat 20:17 And Jesus going up to Jerusalem took the twelve disciples apart in the way, and said unto them,

Matthew 20:18 Behold, we go up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man shall be betrayed unto the chief priests and unto the scribes, and they shall condemn him to death, 19 And shall deliver him to the Gentiles to mock, and to scourge, and to crucify him: and the third day he shall rise again.

Matthew 26:32 But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

John 2:19-22 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 which Jesus had said.

IV. The Evidence Given by the Soldiers and Persuaded to Lie.

Matthew 28:11-15 Now when they were going, behold, some of the watch came into the city, and shewed unto the chief priests all the things that were done. 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. 15 So they took the money, and did as they were taught: and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

When the angel came and rolled back the stone; the keepers did shake and became as _____.

V. The Appearances of Jesus After His Resurrection.

There are records in Scripture of our Lord appearing no less than _____ times.

A. The first appearance is to Mary Magdalene.

Mark 16:9 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.

B. The second appearance is to the _____.

Matthew 28:8 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.

C. The third appearance was to _____ in the afternoon of the resurrection day.

Luke 24:34 Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon.

1Corinthians 15:5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: (Cephas, means rock and was the surname of Peter).

D. The fourth appearance was to two _____ on the Emmaus Road.

Mark 16:12 After that he appeared in another form unto two of them, as they walked, and went into the country.

E. The fifth appearance was to the _____ disciples.

John 20:19 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.

F. The sixth appearance was to the _____ disciples as Thomas was present.

John 20:26 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.

G. The seventh appearance was to seven disciples on the _____.

John 21:5-7 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.

H. The eighth appearance was to _____ hundred brethren as stated by Paul.

1Corinthians 15:6 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.

I. The ninth appearance was to _____ the Lord's brother.

1Corinthians 15:7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

There is indication that James did not fully believe until after the resurrection of Christ. (*John 7:5* For neither did his brethren believe in him.) However, he is listed in *Acts 1:14* (*These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.*)

J. The tenth was to the eleven disciples giving them the _____.

Mat 28:16-17 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. **17** And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted.

Note: It was not until after Pentecost that all of the disciples' lives were changed.

H. The eleventh appearance occurred at the time of His ascension from the _____.

Luke 24:50 And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. **51** And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.

Acts 1:9-11 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. **10** And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; **11** Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. The remaining appearances of Christ are after His ascension. He appears to Stephen, to Paul four times and to John on the isle of Patmos. The resurrection changed the lives of the disciples; change the day of worship from Saturday to Sunday and assures the believer of justification and the promise of a resurrection body as well. Hallelujah, He has risen as He said!!!!