

I Believe in Jesus' Resurrection

Christianity Stands or Falls on the Resurrection of Christ

2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV) ¹²For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

1 Corinthians 15:16-20 (ESV) ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Romans 1:4 (ESV) ⁴and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,

Acts 17:31 (NASB) ³¹because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Facts granted even by skeptical scholars:

1. **Jesus died by crucifixion and was buried in a tomb.**
2. **The apostles believed that they saw Jesus alive again. They lived the rest of their lives testifying to that fact. 1 Cor 15:5-7**

1 Corinthians 15:5-7 (ESV) ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

3. **Paul, previously a persecutor of early Christians, went through a radical change, became an apostle, and claimed the reason was that he had seen the risen Christ. 1 Cor 15:8-10**

1 Corinthians 15:8-10 (ESV) ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

4. **The tomb was found empty on the 3rd day.**

Far-reaching implications of the resurrection:

- A. Any more important event in recorded history?
- B. Anything more important for the child of God to believe?

1. **Our faith is in vain if Jesus did not rise.**

1 Corinthians 15:13-19 (ESV) ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your

sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied

2. **We can have firmly grounded faith to know that we have been born again to a living hope.**

1 Peter 1:3-5 (ESV) ³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

3. **Death has been conquered.**

Hebrews 2:14-15 (ESV) ¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

4. **Everything about our faith is worthwhile. 1 Cor 15:57-58**

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (ESV) ⁵⁷But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

5. **We can say with Thomas, "My Lord and My God." Jn 20:28**