

Resurrection? Really?

Modern doubters continue to raise the same objections the Greeks presented the Apostle Paul. "How are the dead raised?" And with what kind of body do they come? (1 Corinthians 15:35) Paul's response was adequate for both the ancient world and the modern one. The questions, he implied, were actually irrelevant. When the Sadducees challenged Jesus Christ to explain how things would be in the resurrection, the Lord's answer was similar to the assessment given by this apostle: "You are mistaken," Jesus said, "not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God" (Matthew 22:29). The Apostle Paul made it clear that God created bodies of different types: He created them with glory of different sorts.

"But someone will say, "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?" Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies. And what you sow, you do not sow that body that shall be, but mere grain--perhaps wheat or some other grain. But God gives it a body as He pleases, and to each seed its own body. All flesh is not the same flesh, but there is one kind of flesh of men, another flesh of animals, another of fish, and another of birds. There are also celestial bodies and terrestrial bodies; but the glory of the celestial is one, and the glory of the terrestrial is another. There is one glory of the sun, another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for one star differs from another star in glory" (1 Corinthians 15:35-41).

The apostle gave few details about the nature of the resurrection body; but he stated this clearly: "Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Corinthians 15:50). It is a safe and accurate conclusion that the bodies of believers in the age to come will be integrated with the eternal forces of life that the unity will be perfect and complete. God is not limited to atoms and molecules that are the "building blocks" of earthly life. **The inheritance of God's people will be bodily life of a type that God will fashion for a heavenly existence.** While heavenly life will have a continuity with life in this world in consciousness and perhaps even in appearance, it is certain that the heavenly body will not be made of the same flesh and blood of this present age.

Are you prepared for eternity? Are you prepared for the Judgment Day? What are the questions you ask in your heart to God? Will you seek the answers within the pages of the only book God has given to His creation? The Bible remains accurate and accessible for the Word of God to be revealed.

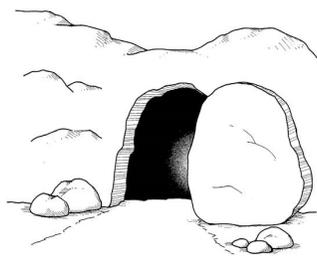
According to Paul, no talk of life after death can take place except in the context of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. "Now Christ has been raised from the dead," he wrote (1 Corinthians 15:20). According to the gospel message proclaimed, the Scriptures and history revolve around the life, death, burial, and resurrection of the Son of God (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). It seems only the resurrection was "in dispute" in Corinth. For that reason, Paul detailed appearances of Jesus, witnesses who were still alive when Paul wrote (1 Corinthians 15:5-8). Central to the resurrection is the fact of the empty tomb and the appearance of Jesus to witnesses—that subject never fades away in the New Testament. It is the foundational fact from which all claims for the deity of Jesus grow:

"This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses" (Acts 2:32).

"But [you] put to death the Prince of life, the one whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses" (Acts 3:15).

"But God raised Him from the dead; and for many days He appeared to those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, the very ones who are now His witnesses to the people" (Acts 13:30-31).

The proclamation: Jesus, and Him risen from the dead! Jesus "was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 1:4). In the Gospel accounts, Luke and John had the most to write about resurrection appearances. Luke told how many women went to the tomb early on the first day of the week and found it empty. Two angels were there, and one asked the women why they were seeking the living among the dead (Luke 24:1-5). John described an event when the Lord appeared to some of His disciples on the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-14).



The only way to know of an event from the past is from witnesses who lived through the event and described it for future generations. The reliability of reports depends on what kind of people the witnesses were, their access to the facts, what they actually saw in contrast to what was hearsay, and what ulterior motives they may have had for telling what they had seen. Jesus being raised from the dead is one of the most securely attested events in history.

Are you a believer in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ?

To all our visitors: *Please feel free to participate!*

You should expect to hear singing with voices only, a few "family" announcements, prayers spoken, and see the Lord's Supper offered, then free-willed giving, and gospel preaching from the Bible.

Any response is up to you and will be kindly received.

We are glad you decided to worship God with us on this first day of the week!



Who literally called down fire from heaven?

Bonus: What happened when the fire actually came down?

Bday/Anniv Lunch: 2nd Sunday...

Friday Bible Study: from 7 to 8 PM.

Singing: at Morton St, Tuesday (4/23)

7PM, Come sing to the LORD...

Ladies Day: Collinsville, Saturday (4/27)

9AM-1PM "Daughters of the King"

Ladies Day: in Bonham, Saturday (5/4)

starts 8:30AM "Riding the Fence: Ain't No Such Thing!"

VBS T-shirt: Please provide size for ordering on bulletin board flyer (\$10)