

Our Resurrection

We celebrate Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection for our salvation. We believers also know that one day Jesus Christ will meet us in the clouds of heaven to receive our resurrection bodies.

1 Corinthians 6:14

And God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise up us by his own power.

Jesus was the "first fruits," the first person to be given a body that would last for eternity. Paul tells us we will get a body like His.

Philippians 3:20-21

For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, **the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body,** according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

This will not be a brand new body. Our vile body will be changed and fashioned like His glorious body.

How our bodies will be changed is not specific but the Bible does say that the corruption will be changed to incorruption and the mortality will put on immortality.

1 Corinthians 15:51-53

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, **but we shall all be changed**, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and **the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.**

Paul also calls it a “redemption,” like when you exchange something.

Romans 8:22-23

For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, **the redemption of our body.**

One change is mentioned in the scripture. Paul says that “flesh and blood” cannot inherit the kingdom of God (go to heaven.) The following passage, using substitution, compares blood to corruption. “Flesh and blood,” corruption, cannot inherit the kingdom of God, incorruption. So we will not have any blood in our resurrection bodies.

1 Corinthians 15:50

Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.

When Jesus stood in the midst of His disciples after His resurrection, they were terrified because they supposed that He was a spirit. They knew who He was, but they were terrified because of the way He had simply appeared, without opening a door. We know that He was solid because He asked them to touch Him to feel that He had flesh and bones in His resurrection body.

Luke 24:36-39

And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? and why do thoughts arise in your hearts? **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.**

He showed them His hands and feet, to see the nail prints, as further proof of His identity. Jesus also showed His disciples that He could eat in His resurrection body. He would not have required food—ever—to stay alive, like our earthly bodies do, but He ate in front of them to show them what He could do.

Luke 24:40-43

And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, **Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an**

honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them.

Peter mentioned Jesus' eating and drinking with His disciples after His resurrection, when Peter went to see Cornelius.

Acts 10:40-41

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

There were 500 witnesses who saw the Lord after His resurrection. He looked like He did before His crucifixion.

1 Corinthians 15:4-8

And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: **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.** After that, he was seen of James; then of

all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

The third time that Jesus appeared to His disciples, they did not recognize Him at first. They knew it was Him from the miracle of the many fishes. It is not clear why they did not acknowledge Him as the Lord, when the account says they knew it was Him.

John 21:4-14

But when the morning was now come, **Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.** Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No. 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. **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. And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.

As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread. Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught.

Simon Peter went up, and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three: and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken. **Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.** Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. **This is now the third time that Jesus shewed himself to his disciples, after that he was risen from the dead.**

The disciples that walked with Jesus to Emmaus were purposely prevented from recognizing Him.

Luke 24:13-16

And, behold, two of them went that same day to a village called Emmaus, which was from Jerusalem about threescore furlongs. And they talked together of all these things which had happened. And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself

drew near, and went with them. **But their eyes were holden that they should not know him.**

No one, except Jesus, has yet received an eternal body. We must use Him as a pattern. There is a lot of speculation about how our bodies will change and what they will be like. Paul compares it to planting a seed in the ground. The seed and our earthly bodies cannot become a living plant, or a resurrected body, unless it first dies. Also, the seed doesn't not look like the plant that it will become and, ultimately, God is the one who gives each seed his own body. We have first-hand reports that we will recognize others and be recognizable in the resurrection.

1 Corinthians 15:35-38

But some man will say, How are the dead raised up? and with what body do they come? Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body.

Messianic Miracles

Jesus, many times, told His followers not to tell others about the miracles that He was performing. Most of us are surprised when we read the gospel accounts by how many times Jesus tells the people who witness His miracles to “tell no one.” It would seem that He would say they should spread the word.

We find out, in Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians the reason why Jesus’ identity needed to remain a mystery from most people.

1 Corinthians 2:6-8

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak **the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

The crucifixion was necessary to save mankind. It was planned by God before the world began.

1 Peter 1:19-20

But **with the precious blood of Christ**, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: **Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you**

Acts 17:29-30

And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, **that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.**

The crucifixion was in prophecy in great detail. But there was one thing about the crucifixion that had to remain a mystery—that Jesus' death would save not just the Jews, but every person who had ever lived, from their sins. Then God would form the Church, the Body of Christ, consisting of Jews and Gentiles, to be His heavenly people.

1 Corinthians 12:13

For **by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles**, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

God needed Satan and his followers to carry out the crucifixion. They would not have done it if they had known that the crucifixion would allow God to call out a heavenly people, the Church, the Body of Christ. As part of Christ's body, we are co-heirs with Christ!

Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

And we will reign with Christ!

2 Timothy 2:10-13

Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sakes, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. It is a faithful

saying: For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us: If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

God has given the Church, the Body of Christ a place in the heavens and Satan will lose his.

Revelation 12:7-8

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, **And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.**

Even though Christ constantly told His followers not to tell anyone about His miracles, faithful Jews, who knew the scriptures, would have known that He was the Messiah by those same miracles.

Isaiah prophesied about the miracles that would be done by the Messiah.

Isaiah 35:4-6

Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even **God with a recompence; he will come and save you.** Then **the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing:** for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert.

When John the Baptist sent his disciples to Jesus to find out if He was the Messiah, Jesus reminded them of Isaiah's prophecy.

Matthew 11:2-6

Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another? Jesus answered and said unto them, Go and shew John again those things which ye do hear and see: **The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to**

them. And blessed is he, whosoever shall not be offended in me.

In the Bible, there are 4 miracles which only the Messiah would be able to do. This is how Israel would identify Him. The first was to heal a man who had been blind from birth.

When Jesus healed a man who had been blind from birth, the people (not the Jewish leadership) knew that He was the Messiah.

John 9:32-33

Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. **If this man were not of God, he could do nothing.**

The Pharisees refused to believe it.

John 9:40-41

And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, **Are we blind also? Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth.**

Another miracle which could only be done by the Messiah was to drive out a devil that caused the person he possessed to be deaf and dumb. When Jesus performed such a miracle, the people knew that nothing like it had ever before been done in Israel.

Matthew 9:32-33

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and **the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.**

But the Pharisees said that Jesus was using the prince of devils to perform the miracle.

Matthew 9:34

But the Pharisees said, **He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.**

When Jesus healed a possessed man who was **blind and dumb** (2 Messianic miracles at once,) the people knew that Jesus was David's son, promised to reign on David's throne forever.

Matthew 12:22-23

Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw. **And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?**

But the Pharisees again told Jesus that His power came from the devil!

Matthew 12:24

But when **the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.**

A third Messianic miracle was raising a man from the dead. Jesus raised His friend Lazarus from the dead.

John 11:14-15

Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead. **And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe;** nevertheless let us go unto him.

Many more Jews believed that Jesus was the Messiah after He raised Lazarus from the dead.

John 11:43-45

And **when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes:** and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. Then **many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.**

The Pharisees, however, did not want the people to believe that Jesus was the Messiah and decided to put Him to death!

John 11:46-53

But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees, and told them what things Jesus had done. Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? **for this man doeth many miracles. If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.** And one of them, named

Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all, Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation; And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad. **Then from that day forth they took counsel together for to put him to death.**

They even wanted to put Lazarus to death!!

John 12:9-11

Much people of the Jews therefore knew that he was there: and they came not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might see Lazarus also, whom he had raised from the dead. **But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death; Because that by reason of him many of the Jews went away, and believed on Jesus.**

Even before Lazarus' resurrection Martha, Lazarus' sister, made her declaration that Jesus was the Messiah!

John 11:25-28

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? **She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.** And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.

The fourth miracle considered Messianic was to heal a leper. There had not been a leper healed in all of Israel.

Jesus told His followers. (Naaman was a Gentile.)

Luke 4:27

And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian.

The Pharisees were enraged to hear Jesus say that.

Luke 4:28-30

And **all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built,** that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

Then Jesus healed 10 of them at one time!

Luke 17:11-14

And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, **there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:** And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. **And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.**

Jesus was clearly the Messiah as evidenced by the 4 specific Messianic miracles He performed. Many of the people knew who He was by the miracles He was performing.

John 7:26-31

But, lo, he speaketh boldly, and they say nothing unto him. **Do the rulers know indeed that this is the very Christ? Howbeit we know this man whence he is: but when Christ cometh, no man knoweth whence he is.** Then cried Jesus in the temple as he taught, saying, Ye both know me, and ye know whence I am: and I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. But I know him: for I am from him, and he hath sent me. Then they sought to take him: but no man laid hands on him, because his hour was not yet come. **And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will he do more miracles than these which this man hath done?**

Q & A

How many in a legion?

The Bible will define itself. A legion is many. Google says between 4000-6000.

Mark 5:9

And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many.

Luke 8:30

And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

Is there a new commandment?

It is more like a summation of all of the commandments into one. Love your neighbor.

Matthew 22:34-39

But when the Pharisees had heard that he had put the Sadducees to silence, they were gathered together. Then one of them, which was a lawyer,

asked him a question, tempting him, and saying, Master, which is the great commandment in the law? Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. **And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.**

John 13:1, 33-34

¹Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

³⁴**A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.**

John 15:12

This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

1 John 2:8-10

Again, **a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you:** because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. **He that loveth his brother abideth in the light,** and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

2 John 1:5-6

And now I beseech thee, lady, not as **though I wrote a new commandment unto thee, but that which we had from the beginning, that we love one another.** And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

Why didn't Mary recognize Jesus in the garden?

One possible reason is that the last time Mary had seen Jesus, He didn't even look like a man because of the beating and torture.

Isaiah 52:14

As many were astonished at thee; his visage was so marred more than any man, and his form more than the sons of men: