

## WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT CHRIST (4)

### 5. His Resurrection.

By the resurrection of Christ we mean the rising up of His body from the grave. Many attempts have been made to discredit the fact of the resurrection, but there are many incontrovertible truths which establish the fact of it. The angel said to Mary Magdalene and to the other Mary, "He is risen, as He said." The fact of Christ's resurrection is stated as follows: "And that he was buried, and that he rose again on the third day according to the scriptures." I Corinthians 15:4. "Remember that Jesus Christ of the seed of David was raised from the dead according to my gospel." II Timothy 2:8.

#### (1) The importance of Christ's resurrection.

It is impossible to overestimate its importance.

##### a. It was prominent in Apostolic preaching.

Acts 4:33

##### b. There are at least 104 references to it in the New Testament.

##### c. It is fundamental to Christians.

I Corinthians 15:3-4

##### d. Salvation depends upon the reality of Christ's resurrection.

I Corinthians 15:14, 17

#### (2) The nature of Christ's resurrection.

##### a. It was an actual resurrection.

##### b. It was bodily resurrection.

#### (3) The proof of Christ's resurrection.

##### a. The testimony of four creditable writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John all testified to the reality of Christ's resurrection

##### b. The circumstantial evidence.

###### (a) The empty tomb.

(b) It transformed the Apostles. It changed them from despair to a courage which could not be shaken.

(c) It was not challenged in the First Century.

(d) It brought about a change in the day of rest.

Acts 20:7; I Corinthians 16:2

##### c. Christ was seen by many after He arose.

I Corinthians 15:5-8

#### (4) The Purpose of Christ's resurrection.

##### a. To prove the deity of Christ.

Romans 1:4

##### b. To overthrow the power of Satan.

##### c. To give new hope to His disciples in all ages.

#### (5) The Results of Christ's resurrection.

##### a. To God.

(a) It proves that He is living.

I Peter 1:21

- (b) It proves that He is faithful.  
Acts 13:32-33
- (c) It proves that He is powerful.  
Ephesians 1:19-20

b. To Christ.  
It proves His deity.  
Romans 1:4

c. To Believers.

- (a) It assures us of a living intercessor.  
Romans 8:34
- (b) It shows that we have a living Saviour.  
Romans 6:9
- (c) It assures us of acceptance with God.  
Romans 4:25
- (d) It guarantees us sufficient power for service.  
Ephesians 1:19-22; Philippians 3:8-10
- (e) It proves the reality of our faith.  
I Corinthians 15:14, 17
- (f) It guarantees our own resurrection.  
II Corinthians 4:14; I Thessalonians 4:14
- (g) It guarantees life and immortality.  
John 14:9; II Timothy 1:10

## 6. His Ascension.

By the ascension of Christ we mean that event in His experience in which He departed visibly from His disciples and went back to Heaven in His resurrection body.

(1) The fact of Christ's ascension.

His ascension is mentioned at least 33 times in the New Testament.  
Luke 24:51      Acts 1:9  
Ephesians 4:8      Colossians 3:1

(2) The purpose of Christ's ascension.

- a. To be our Forerunner.  
Hebrews 6:19-20
- b. To prepare a place for us.  
John 14:2
- c. To intercede for us.  
Hebrews 4:14-16  
Hebrews 9:24