

Life of Christ – Resurrection of Mt. 28:1-8

Introduction:

It is at the time of His death that the true test begins as to whether or not Jesus is the true Son of God. If He did not rise from the dead, He cannot be the Christ.

- I. The resurrection of Christ was foretold about before it occurred.
- II. It is proven in the Bible that Jesus rose from the dead.
- III. Jesus ascended to the Father and is now at His right hand.

I. The resurrection of Christ was foretold about before it occurred.

- A. It was foretold by the prophets.
 1. **Ps. 16:10** - For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.
 2. This quote is used several times in the New Testament after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus (we will note some of them later).
- B. It was also foretold by Christ Himself.
 1. At least 6 times in the book of Matthew Jesus predicts His resurrection.
 - a. **Mt. 12:38-40** - Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." {39} But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. {40} For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."
 - b. **Mt. 16:21** (after Peter confesses Jesus as the Son of God) - From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.
 - c. **Mt. 17:9** - Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."
 - d. **Mt. 17:22-23** - Now while they were staying in Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of Man is about to be betrayed into the hands of men, {23} and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up." And they were exceedingly sorrowful.
 - e. **Mt. 20:18-19** - Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death, {19} and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again.
 - f. **Mt. 26:31-32** - Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike

the Shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' {32}
But after I have been raised, I will go before you to Galilee."

2. Jesus knew that He was going to be raised from the dead, and He wanted His disciples to understand it as well.
- C. Even those who opposed Jesus knew that He was going to rise again.
1. **Mt. 27:62-66** - On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, {63} saying, "Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise.' {64} Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead.' So the last deception will be worse than the first." {65} Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go your way, make it as secure as you know how." {66} So they went and made the tomb secure, sealing the stone and setting the guard.
 2. **Mt. 28:11-15** - Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. {12} When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, {13} saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' {14} And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure." {15} So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

II. It is proven in the Bible that Jesus rose from the dead.

- A. Notice what happens when the women come to the tomb to anoint Jesus with spices.
1. **Mt. 28:1-8** - Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. {2} And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. {3} His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. {4} And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. {5} But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. {6} "He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. {7} "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you." {8} So they went out quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy, and ran to bring His disciples word.
 2. The other accounts of the gospel tell a similar story.
 3. The point is this: **HE IS RISEN!!!**
- B. He appeared to many of His disciples after His resurrection.

1. **I Cor. 15:3-8** - For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, {4} and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, {5} and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. {6} After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. {7} After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. {8} Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.
 2. In fact, we know of at least 13 appearances to His disciples after His resurrection.
- C. Others have also spoken of His resurrection.
1. Peter
 - a. **Acts 3:14-15** (to those at Solomon's Porch) - But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, {15} and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses.
 - b. **Acts 10:39-41** (to Cornelius) - And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. {40} Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, {41} not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.
 - c. The resurrection was Peter's main theme in **Acts 2:22-36**.
 2. Paul
 - a. **Acts 13:26-37** (To those in Antioch of Pisidia) - Men and brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to you the word of this salvation has been sent. {27} For those who dwell in Jerusalem, and their rulers, because they did not know Him, nor even the voices of the Prophets which are read every Sabbath, have fulfilled them in condemning Him. {28} And though they found no cause for death in Him, they asked Pilate that He should be put to death. {29} Now when they had fulfilled all that was written concerning Him, they took Him down from the tree and laid Him in a tomb. {30} But God raised Him from the dead. {31} He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. {32} And we declare to you glad tidings-- that promise which was made to the fathers. {33} God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You.' {34} And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: 'I will give you the sure mercies of David.' {35} "Therefore He also says in another Psalm: 'You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.' {36} For David, after he had served his own

generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; {37} but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.

- b. **Acts 17:2-3** - Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, {3} explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."
- c. **Acts 17:31** - because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.

3. The apostles

- a. **Acts 4:33** - And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.

D. It was proven that Jesus had been raised from the dead!

III. Jesus ascended to the Father and is now at His right hand.

A. Jesus ascended back into heaven.

- 1. **Acts 1:9-11** - Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. {10} And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, {11} who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven."
- 2. Again, the accounts of the gospel tells us the same thing.

B. Jesus is now at the right hand of the Father.

- 1. **Acts 2:33** - Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.
- 2. **Acts 5:29-32** - But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men. {30} The God of our fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on a tree. {31} Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. {32} And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."
- 3. **Acts 7:55-56** - But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, {56} and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"
- 4. **Col. 3:1** - If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

Conclusion:

There will also be a final resurrection when Christ returns to claim those who are His (I Cor. 15:20-23).