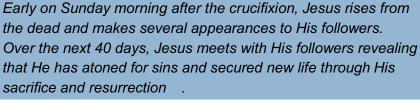
THE STORY OF GOD

1 Corinthians 15 & John 11:25





GOD: The Son has conquered death (the results of human sin and rebellion). He gives the evidence of His resurrection by letting His followers see and touch his scars.

HUMANS: We are slow to believe and shocked – even though Jesus predicted His death and resurrection. Those who believe without seeing are blessed.

Remember: "Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection not in words alone, but in every leaf in springtime ." - **Martin Luther**

"The entire plan for the future has its key in the resurrection.

- Billy Graham

Why does the resurrection matter?

The resurrection is the crowning event of all God's mighty works of **REDEMPTION**.

The **HOPE** of every true believer rests solidly on the historical reality of the resurrection.

Biblical evidence for the resurrection:

- Jesus' resurrection was PROPHESIED 700 years earlier Isaiah 53:8–12
- Jesus <u>PREDICTED</u> His resurrection Matthew 12:38–40, Mark 8:31 & 9:30–32
- Jesus <u>DIED</u> (not passed out, "almost" died) Mark 15:39, John 19:31–37
- Jesus was buried in a tomb that was easy to <u>FIND</u> Matthew 27:57–61
- Jesus appeared <u>PHYSICALLY</u> three days later Matthew 28:9, John 20:17, John 20:24–29
- Jesus' resurrection convinced His FAMILY to worship Him as God John 7:1–5, Acts 1:14
- Jesus' resurrection was confirmed by His <u>ENEMIES</u> Philippians 3:6/Acts 8:1/Acts 9

Circumstantial evidence for the resurrection:

- Transformation of the **DISCIPLES** (finish the mission)
- **WOMEN** first to discover empty tomb (if lying about resurrection, not a good way to convince)
- No enshrined TOMB for Jesus (common practice to set up memorial to a "holy man")
- The early church **WORSHIPPED** Jesus
- The PRACTICES of the church were centered on resurrection (baptism/communion)
- The day of worship moved from Saturday to **SUNDAY** as reminder of Jesus' resurrection

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