
The Significance of the Resurrection

*New Hope Community Church
Dr. Jack Bracy March 25, 2018*

Resurrection Means to Come Back to Life After
Death

The Resurrection Is the Central Issue to Christianity

1. The Resurrection Is One of the Major Evidences That Jesus Christ Is the Son of God

“As to his divine holiness, he was shown with great power to be the Son of God by being raised from death.” ***Romans 1:4, GNB***

2. Jesus' Resurrection Is God's Assurance That We Can Have Forgiveness from Our Sins

"And if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then your faith is useless and you are still guilty of your sins. In that case, all who have died believing in Christ are lost! And if our hope in Christ is only for this life, we are more to be pitied than anyone in the world." **1 Corinthians 15:16–19, NLT**

3. The Resurrection Tells the World That the Kingdom of God Is Ruled by a Living and Sovereign God

"When I saw him, I fell at his feet as if I were dead. But he laid his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the First and the Last. I am the living one. I died, but look—I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and the grave." **Revelation 1:17–18, NLT**

4. Jesus' Resurrection Proves That Physical Death Is Not the End of Life

“But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead. He is the first of a great harvest of all who have died... But there is an order to this resurrection: Christ was raised as the first of the harvest; then all who belong to Christ will be raised when he comes back.” *1 Corinthians 15:20, 23, NLT*

5. Jesus’ Resurrection foreshadowed the Ultimate Victory of Christianity Over Death and the Darkness of Life

“But one of the twenty-four elders said to me, “Stop weeping! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the heir to David’s throne, has won the victory. He is worthy to open the scroll and its seven seals.” Then I saw a Lamb that looked as if it had been slaughtered, but it was now standing between the throne and the four living beings and among the twenty-four elders...” *Revelation 5:5–6, NLT*

Here’s What You Need to Know

1. Old Testament Prophets Predicted It

“Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.” *Isaiah 53:4–5, ESV*

2. Jesus Predicted His Death and Resurrection (*Mark 8:31-38, 9:31, 10:33-34, 14.36; Luke 13:32-33, 18:31-33*)

3. After Jesus Rose from The Dead He Appeared 12 Different Times to Over 500 Eyewitnesses in Multiple Locations and Times Over A 40-Day Period

... Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures ... was buried... he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all

the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.” *1 Corinthians 15:3–8, ESV*

4. The Transformation of the Disciples Was Radical

“... The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people... And the high priest questioned them, saying, “We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man’s blood upon us.” But Peter and the apostles answered, “We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree... And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”
Acts 5:25–32, ESV

5. The Explosion of the Church

“These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also,”
Acts 17:6, ESV

“I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said.”

1 Corinthians 15:3–4, NLT

What Does the Resurrection Mean for You?

1. It Validates Jesus’ Claim That He Is the Only Way to Heaven

“Jesus said... “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” **John 14:6, ESV**

“There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.” **Acts 4:12, NLT**

2. It Gives Us Hope for The Future

Because I live, you also will live.” **John 14:19, ESV**

3. It Offers New Life Right Now

“I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.” **John 5:24, NLT**