

Scripture References to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ stand at the apex of human history. Before the world was even created, God made plans to rescue humanity from the slavery of sin from its inception. God revealed through His prophets over centuries of the One coming who would fulfill His promises:

“...but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God” (1 Peter 1:19-21).

The New Testament consists of the four Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, Epistles (letters)--all written after the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Bible builds the faith of a Christian and provides eyewitness testimony to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The apostle John states plainly in 1 John 1:1-3 that

“What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life—and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ” (1 John 1-1-3).

Take time to reflect on the scriptures below that reference the Messiah’s death and resurrection. Also, carefully read the eyewitness accounts of those who witnessed Jesus after His resurrection. If you do not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, be sure to read **“Seeking God?”** at the end of the **“Scripture References”** section.

Scripture References

⁴⁰ for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth (Matthew 12:40).

¹⁸ “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, ¹⁹ and will hand Him over to the Gentiles to mock and scourge and crucify *Him*, and on the third day He will be raised up” (Matthew 20:18-19).

⁵ The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. ⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying (Matthew 28:5-6).

⁶ He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.”

⁸ And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples. ⁹ And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him (Matthew 28:6-9).

⁶ And he said to them, “Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, *here is* the place where they laid Him. (Mark 16:6)

⁶ He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, ⁷ saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again” (Luke 24:6-7).

The Road to Emmaus

¹³ And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem. ¹⁴ And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and *began* traveling with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were prevented from recognizing Him. ¹⁷ And He said to them, “What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ One *of them*, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, “Are You the only one visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?” ¹⁹ And He said to them, “What things?” And they said to Him, “The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, ²⁰ and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him. ²¹ But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened. ²² But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³ and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see.” ²⁵ And He said to them, “O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?” ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

²⁸ And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther. ²⁹ But they urged Him, saying, “Stay with us, for it is *getting* toward evening, and the day is now nearly over.” So He went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When He had reclined *at the table* with them, He took the bread and blessed *it*, and breaking *it*, He *began* giving *it* to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. ³² They said to one another, “Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?” ³³ And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴ saying, “The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵ They *began* to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:13-35).

Other Appearances

³⁶ While they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be to you.” ³⁷ But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit. ³⁸ And He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹ See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰ And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹ While they still could not

believe *it* because of their joy and amazement, He said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave Him a piece of a broiled fish;⁴³ and He took it and ate *it* before them.

⁴⁴ Now He said to them, “These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,⁴⁶ and He said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day... (Luke 24:34-46).

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26).

The Empty Tomb

²⁰ Now on the first *day* of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone *already* taken away from the tomb.² So she ran and came to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him.”³ So Peter and the other disciple went forth, and they were going to the tomb.⁴ The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first;⁵ and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying *there*; but he did not go in.⁶ And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying *there*,⁷ and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.⁸ So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed.⁹ For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead.¹⁰ So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

¹¹ But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb;¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying.¹³ And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.”¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus.¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?” Supposing Him to be the gardener, she said to Him, “Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where you have laid Him, and I will take Him away.”¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to Him in Hebrew, “Rabboni!” (which means, Teacher).¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brethren and say to them, ‘I ascend to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.’”¹⁸ Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and *that* He had said these things to her (John 20:1-18).

⁸ So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed.⁹ For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead (John 20:8-9).

²² So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place;²³ that the Christ was to suffer, *and* that by reason of *His* resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the *Jewish* people and to the Gentiles (Acts 26:22-23).

²⁶ For you first, God raised up His Servant and sent Him to bless you by turning every one *of you* from your wicked ways” (Acts 3:26).

⁵ For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection,⁶ knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin... (Romans 6:5-6).

³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, ⁵ and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶ After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; ⁷ then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; ⁸ and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also (1 Corinthians 15:3-8).

²¹ For since by a man *came* death, by a man also *came* the resurrection of the dead (1 Corinthians 15:21).

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death... (Philippians 3:10).

¹⁴ For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus (1 Thessalonians 4:14).

²⁰ Now the God of peace, who brought up from the dead the great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the eternal covenant, *even* Jesus our Lord, ²¹ equip you in every good thing to do His will, working in us that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom *be* the glory forever and ever. Amen (Hebrews 13:20-21).

²¹ Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ... (1 Peter 3:21).

⁶ Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with Him for a thousand years (Revelation 20:6).

¹² And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹³ And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one *of them* according to their deeds (Revelation 20:12-13).

Seeking God?

God Loves You

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life (John 3:16).

All Are Sinners

“...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...” (Romans 3:23).

“...as it is written, “THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE...” (Romans 3:10).

God's Remedy for Sin

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Romans 6:23).

“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name...” (John 1:12).

“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures...” (I Corinthians 15:3, 4).

All May Be Saved Now

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me” (Revelation 3:20).

“for “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED” (Romans 10:13).

My Decision to Receive Christ As My Savior

<Pray this prayer>

“Confessing to God that I am a sinner and believing that the Lord Jesus Christ died for my sins on the cross and was raised to free me from the slavery of sin, I do now receive and confess Jesus Christ as my personal Savior.”

Assurance as a Believer

“But what does it say? “THE WORD IS NEAR YOU, IN YOUR MOUTH AND IN YOUR HEART”—that is, the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved...” (Romans 10:8-9).

“Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life” (John 5:24).

“...but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name” (John 20:31).

What Now?

Develop a Relationship with God

“They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42).

God desires a relationship with you. That relationship is developed by spiritual growing in Christ through scripture, fellowship, the breaking of bread (the Lord's Supper), and prayer. Begin reading the gospels and learn about the life of Jesus Christ. The books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John document His life, death, and resurrection. The Book of Acts can be considered the sequel to Luke's Gospel, for it describes life of the early Church as it expanded among the Jews and Gentiles. Its purpose is twofold: to provide an

account of Christian origins and provide a defense of Christianity. The Epistles (21 books in all) are letters written by the Apostles to their followers to Christian communities to guide and instruct them in living the Christian life. These epistles, or letters, are relevant to us Christians today. Lastly, the Book of Revelation is an apocalyptic letter that reflects the early Church's experience of persecution from a future perspective when God's victory over sin and death is realized. The Book of Revelation is often referred to as The Apocalypse, which is a transliteration of the first word of the text, and means "unveiling" (Everett F. Harrison, *Introduction to the New Testament* [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977], 454).

There are several translations available, and I recommend a good study Bible. Begin reading a little each day, and do not be afraid to make notations. Keep a notebook recording your observations. Regular reading builds your faith. Just as you need physical food to nourish your body, you need spiritual nourishment to feed your faith in God.

For recommendation on a Bible, go to <https://christiancampro.com/5-best-bibles-for-beginners-the-new-christian-family-starter-kit/>

Prayer

Prayer is a conversation with God. At times, you will find the Old Testament Psalms as suitable prayers and praises to God. Consider these verses about prayer:

"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know how we ought to pray, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groans too deep for words" (Romans 8:26).

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6).

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful..." Colossians 4:2).

"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17).

"First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgiving be offered for everyone..." (1 Timothy 2:1).

"But you, beloved, by building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit..." (Jude 1:20).

Remember, a conversation is two-way. Learn to listen. Take time to allow God to speak to you. It takes discipline and removing oneself from all the distractions of life.

Find a Christian Fellowship

A Christian fellowship or church is vital in the growth of a Christian. God did not make humans live alone but instead, He made them social beings. We need each other. Acts 2:42 illustrates that the early church took its growth, fellowship, the Lord's Supper (communion), and prayer seriously. The verse states that the early Christians *devoted* themselves to each aspect of their faith. Let us all follow the encouragement from the Book of Hebrews:

"Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near" (Hebrews 10:23-25).