

The Gospel of Luke

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Luke 24:1-12

1. The Perplexity at the Resurrection

When first grappling with the evidence or report of the resurrection, the primary responses by Jesus' disciples were confusion, doubt, and skepticism (Lk. 24:4, 11, 21-26).

2. The Plan for the Resurrection

The angel asked a single question in order to highlight the foolishness of their search. Jesus' promise of resurrection was well known by friends and foes alike (cf. Mt. 27:62-66). The angel then calls them to remember Jesus' own prophecy that He was to be killed and that He would rise again (Mk. 8:33; 9:31; 10:33).

3. The Pronouncement in the Resurrection

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is a vindication of all of His claims (Jn. 10:24-30; 14:1-6). The crucifixion of Jesus Christ displays how seriously God takes sin, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ confirms that God was propitiated by His sacrifice (Jn. 3:16; 1 Pt. 3:18). It is by the resurrection of Jesus Christ that He was powerfully declared to be the Son of God (Rm. 1:4). It was for this reason that He is rightly called Lord to whom every knee will bow (Pp. 2:9-11).

4. The Pledge of the Resurrection

The reality of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is of the highest importance for the Christian faith (1 Co. 15:3-4). It is because Jesus has risen from the dead that Christians have assurance that we too will one day rise again (1 Co. 15:12-23).

5. The Priority of the Resurrection

On that Sunday, His disciples had forgotten what He had said about His resurrection until they were reminded (Lk. 24:6-8). Sadly, many who profess to be Christians today only remember the significance of the death and resurrection of Jesus on Sunday mornings (cf. Rv. 2-3). We must endeavor to live in light of the resurrection and not in the shadow of sin (Ga. 5:16-25).