

RIVERSIDE QUARTERly



Issue

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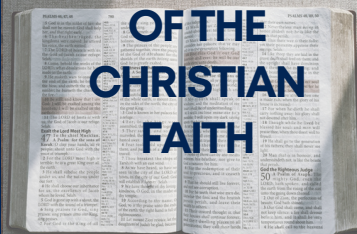
Spring 2025

THE EVIDENCE

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THE HEART OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

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Welcome

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Riverside Quarterly. Our focus in this edition is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. An event recorded in the bible, acknowledged in Roman historical records of the time and central to the good news of God for all of us. Whether it happened or not changes everything. Ever thought about it? Ever investigated it? Read on to find out more and access more resources on history's most critical event!

What we believe about...

Miracles

The resurrection is a miracle. Scan here to understand what we believe about the miracles in the bible, including the resurrection of Jesus Christ



Are miracles even possible?

In this enlightening answer, Oxford Mathematician John Lennox challenges the skepticism surrounding miracles (such as the resurrection of Jesus), particularly dissecting David Hume's famous argument. Lennox argues with clarity that miracles are not violations of natural laws but rather events that transcend our current understanding.

Drawing from historical evidence, Lennox presents a compelling case for the possibility of miracles. He explores C.S. Lewis's analogy focusing on the difference between the laws of nature and the laws of man, and demonstrates how miracles are not only compatible with science but also supported by it. Lennox emphasises that scientific evidence isn't confined to the natural sciences alone but extends to history and other disciplines.

Watch this excerpt from the Practical Wisdom conference where John Lennox challenges preconceived notions and invites us to reconsider the profound question: **Are miracles a violation of natural law, or are they, in fact, within the realm of possibility?"**

Whats on?

SUNDAY

- 9:30am Breaking of Bread

Coffee @11:15am

**BIBLE
FOR
ALL**

11:30am

Creche available

- 4:00pm Bible Teaching
- 4:00pm Sunday School

MONDAY

- 10.00am Toddlers
- 8:00pm Prayer Meeting

WEDNESDAY

- 6:30pm Kids Club
- 8:00pm Bible Teaching

COMMUNITY LUNCH

2nd Friday of each month
12:30pm

J E S U S S A I D

**“I am the
Resurrection
and the Life.**

**Whoever
believes in
Me, though
he die, yet
shall he live”**

THE EVIDENCE

FOR THE RESURRECTION



It appears to me that many people have a closed mind about the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without considering the evidence, they assume that the supernatural is not possible. They therefore conclude that Jesus Christ cannot have risen from the dead. I do not think that is a sensible conclusion. The evidence points to a supernatural resurrection, a resurrection that shows Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Some people may refuse to entertain the idea because to do so would be to admit that they need a Saviour from their sins! They are wilfully ignorant!

The evidence is compelling. However, over the years a number of alternative explanations of the evidence have been advanced. It is important to note that there is no credible challenge to the biblical evidence, only alternative interpretations of commonly accepted facts.

REAL DEATH

Advocates of the “swoon” or similar theories maintain that Jesus did not die on the cross. He therefore did not rise from the dead but recovered from crucifixion. The main problem with this theory is that all the data indicates Jesus did die. We have already considered the details of His brutal abuse and crucifixion. Each Gospel account records His death and, in John’s case, reveals that He died quickly. I understand from medical experts that it is inherently improbable, if not impossible, that a victim would have survived what He suffered.

Perhaps you are willing to accept the evidence in your mind, but refuse to accept its implications for your life and eternity! Are you willing to accept that Christ died and rose to be your Saviour? Will you turn from your sin and place your trust for eternity in Jesus Christ, making him Lord of your life. The Bible says that to do so guarantees a place in heaven!

STOLEN BODY

It is sometimes suggested that, following His burial, His body was stolen or moved by His disciples. However, the difficulty for proponents of such theories is that no corpse has ever been produced, not even during times of serious opposition when to display the body would have shut down Christianity. More fundamentally, such a theory cannot explain the appearances of the risen Christ. The evidence for His resurrection rests not only on an empty tomb but also on His encounters with unprepared and fearful followers.

FRAUD/MISTAKE

I have heard some people say that perhaps the disciples made a mistake; for example, that in their pain that they must have hallucinated when they thought they had seen Jesus alive after death. Most people discount the possibility of a fraud, because the disciples gained nothing by associating with Jesus Christ. On the contrary, they were persecuted and martyred. They had no reason to fabricate a resurrection account; rather, they were convinced of its truth.

Jesus appeared on numerous occasions before He ascended back to heaven. As we have already noted, on one occasion it was to over five hundred people. We have also seen that Paul gave up his old allegiance to spend the rest of his life living for a Saviour he believed to be alive. The possibility of over five hundred witnesses being mistaken about something so fundamental is so small as to be negligible.

The Message of the Resurrection



WHAT HAPPENED?

Jesus was crucified, buried, and rose on the third day

(Matthew 28:5-6).

Witnesses saw Him alive, proving He conquered death.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

The resurrection confirms Jesus' victory over sin and death

(1 Corinthians 15:17).

It proves He is who He said He was.

It offers hope of eternal life for all who believe

(John 11:25).

The Resurrection and You

How the Resurrection
changes lives

FORGIVENESS

**Jesus death and resurrection can
make us right before God the
Judge.**

"Who was delivered up for our trespasses
and raised for our justification"
(Romans 4:25)



HOPE

**Death is not the end. We can
have eternal life.**

"He has caused us to be born again to a
living hope through the resurrection"
(1 Peter 1:3).

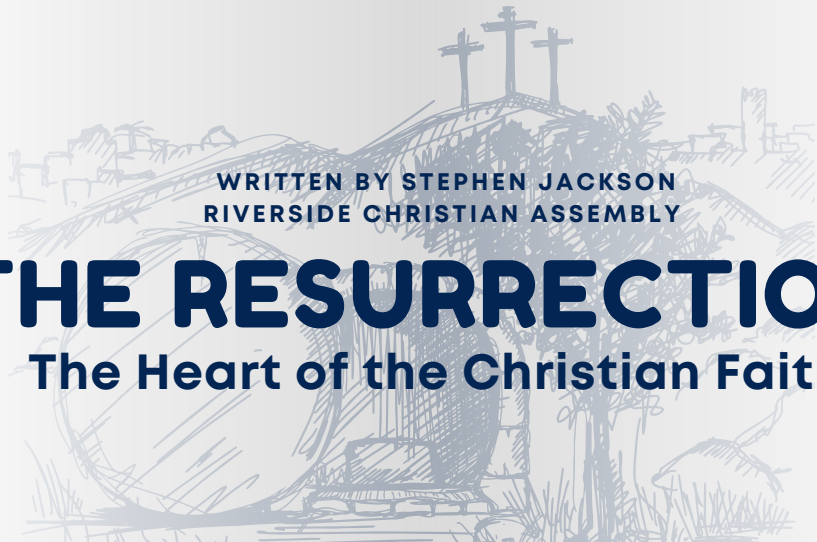


NEW LIFE

**We can live in the power of
Christ today.**

"Christ was raised from the dead...
we too might walk in newness of life"
(Romans 6:4).





WRITTEN BY STEPHEN JACKSON
RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

THE RESURRECTION:

The Heart of the Christian Faith

The resurrection of Jesus Christ stands as the foundation of the Christian faith. It is central to the gospel message, confirming Jesus' identity, fulfilling prophecy, securing our justification, and guaranteeing eternal life for believers. This article explores the key biblical references to the resurrection, both in the Old and New Testaments, and why it remains the cornerstone of our hope in Christ.

BIBLICAL REFERENCES TO THE RESURRECTION

The resurrection was not an unexpected event; it was foretold in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament.

Old Testament Prophecies:

Psalms 16:10 – "For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption." This verse, later quoted by Peter in Acts 2:27, prophesies that the Messiah's body would not decay.

Isaiah 53:10-11 – "Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities." This passage describes the suffering servant who, after being crushed, "will prolong His days," indicating a resurrection.

Jonah 1:17 – "Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Jesus Himself referenced Jonah's three days in the belly of the fish as a foreshadowing of His resurrection (Matthew 12:40).

Job 19:25-26 – "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." This points to the hope of resurrection.

New Testament Accounts:

The Gospels: Each Gospel records the resurrection (Matthew 28, Mark 16, Luke 24, John 20) as the climax of Jesus' earthly ministry.

Acts 2:24-32: Peter declares that God raised Jesus, fulfilling Psalm 16:10. "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it."

Romans 1:4: Paul states that Jesus was "declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead."

1 Corinthians 15: This chapter is foundational, affirming that Christ's resurrection is the guarantee of our future resurrection. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive." (1 Corinthians 15:22)

Revelation 1:18: Jesus proclaims, "I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."

WHY THE RESURRECTION MATTERS

- **It Confirms Jesus' Identity and Deity.** Jesus predicted His resurrection (Mark 8:31, John 2:19-22).
- **The Foundation of Justification.** Justification means being declared righteous before God (Romans 4:25) The resurrection confirms that Christ's atoning work on the cross was accepted by God, securing our salvation.
- **Victory Over Death and Sin.** Corinthians 15:54-57 declares that Christ's resurrection conquered death, fulfilling Isaiah 25:8. "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?... thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
- **The Promise of Eternal Life.** Jesus' resurrection is the guarantee of our own resurrection (John 11:25-26). Just as Christ was raised, so shall we be (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).
- **Christ's Body Did Not See Corruption.** Unlike all who came before Him, Jesus' body did not decay in the grave. Acts 13:35 quotes Psalm 16:10 to emphasize that Christ's body remained incorruptible, proving His divine nature.
- **Empowerment for Christian Living.** The resurrection power enables believers to live victoriously over sin (Ephesians 1:19-20).
- **The Basis for Christian Hope.** Paul ties our entire hope to the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:17). The resurrection ensures that our faith is built on a living Saviour, not a dead prophet.

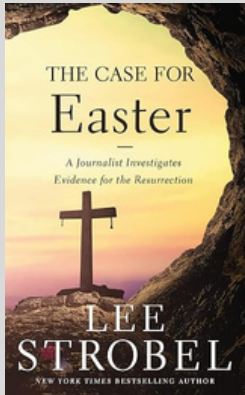
CONCLUSION

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not merely an event in history; it is the defining truth of Christianity. It validates Jesus' claims, secures our justification, guarantees eternal life, and empowers believers to live transformed lives. As Paul declares, "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Corinthians 15:57) This Easter and every day, may we rejoice in the reality of the risen Christ!

FIND OUT MORE

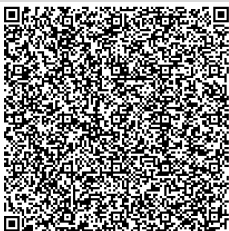


Introductory (96 pages)

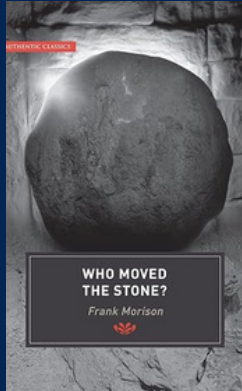


Written in a hard-hitting, journalistic style, *The Case for Easter* probes the core issues of the resurrection. Jesus Christ, risen from the dead: superstitious myth or life-changing reality?

The evidence is in.
The verdict is up to
you.



Intermediate (223 pages)

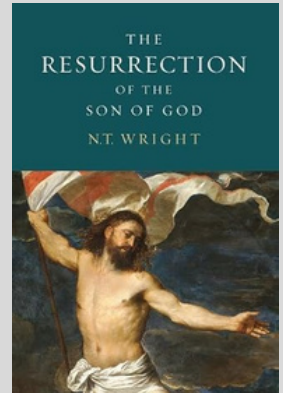


An in-depth exploration of what happened between the death of Jesus and the resurrection, as recorded in the Bible. This book is crammed with vital detail that every Christian should know and is also a powerful tool of persuasion for those questioning Christianity.

Writing this book changed Morison's life. Will you let it change yours?



Scholarly (848 pages)



N.T. Wright takes us on a fascinating journey through ancient beliefs about life after death, from the shadowy figures who inhabit Homer's Hades, through Plato's hope for a blessed immortality, to the first century, where the Greek and Roman world (apart from the Jews) consistently denied any possibility of resurrection



WHAT'S ON?...



COMMUNITY LUNCH

All ages welcome!

Choice of soups

Dessert and coffee

Short Bible message

Second Friday of every month
12:30pm

Easter Family Open Day



Free Bibles and Easter books



Find out more about RCA



Bacon rolls, snacks and drinks



Baking, crafts and Easter egg hunt



Saturday 12th April
Drop in 10am - 12pm

All Welcome!



RCA Kids Holiday Club Bible Boat Bonanza

WHAT?

Bible stories, games, crafts and more!

WHO?

Primary School aged children
(Including those entering P1)

WHEN?

Mon 11th - Thurs 14th August
10am - 12pm every morning
(Prizegiving Thurs 6:30pm)

WHERE?

Riverside Christian Assembly
Spires Business Park
Mugiemoss Road

Scan to register



www.theriverside.church



Available to watch on YouTube



BIBLE FOR ALL

Coffee

Bible Message

Creche

Year Round

Sundays
11:30am

Refreshments
from 11:15am

All ages welcome!

≡ Welcome ≡

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?

Get in touch if you would like

- a free Bible
- a study course
- to find out more

WWW.THERIVERSIDE.CHURCH

Visit our website where you can



Contact us



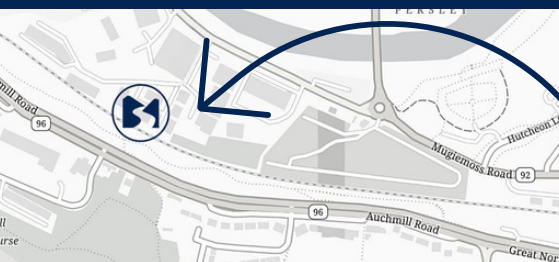
Find out more about us and what we believe



Learn more about what's on



View previous Quarterlys and sign up to our mailing list



RIVERSIDE

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Riverside Christian
Assembly



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