

“Many Infallible Proofs of the Resurrection of Jesus”
Acts 1:3

Introduction: Indications of the Resurrection (An Empty Grave)

1. The Resurrection and Our Pains Acts 2:24- *“Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.”*
2. The Resurrection and Our Provisions Acts 3:26- *“Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.”*
3. The Resurrection and Our Penalties Romans 4:25- *“Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.”*
4. The Resurrection and Our Preaching I Corinthians 15:14- *“And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.”*
5. The Resurrection and Our Past I Corinthians 15:17- *“And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.”*

➤ Notice the Prelude to the Appearances:

1. The Trip to the Tomb Matthew 28:1- *“In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher.”*
Mark 16:1- *“And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him.”*
2. The Terror at the Tomb Matthew 28:2-4- *“And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men.”*
3. The Transaction in the Tomb
 - a. The Frustrated Women Mark 16:2-3- *“And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?”*
 - b. The Frightened Women Mark 16:4-5- *“And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.”*
 - c. The Favored Women Mark 16:6-7- *“And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him. But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.”*

4. The Testimony from the Tomb Matthew 28:8- *“And they departed quickly from the sepulchre with fear and great joy; and did run to bring his disciples word.”*
5. The Talk About the Tomb
 - a. What was Said Luke 24:10-11- *“It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary the mother of James, and other women that were with them, which told these things unto the apostles. And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.”*
 - b. What was Seen Luke 24:12- *“Then arose Peter, and ran unto the sepulchre; and stooping down, he beheld the linen clothes laid by themselves, and departed, wondering in himself at that which was come to pass.”*

Body: Validations of the Resurrection (A Risen Lord)

- I. To Mary Magdalene Mark 16:9-11, John 20:11-18
Mark 16:9- *“Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.”*
 - A. The Preliminaries
 1. The Report John 20:1-2
 2. The Race John 20:3-5
 3. The Response John 20:6-10
 - B. The Particulars
 1. The Sorrowful One John 20:11
 2. The Shining Ones John 20:12-13
 3. The Sovereign One
 - a. Mary’s Error John 20:14-15
 - (1) Why did Mary fail to recognize Jesus?
 - (2) Probably for several reasons: Her eyes were blinded with tears; the early morning light was still too dim; or she was not expecting to see him.
 - b. Mary’s Ecstasy
 - (1) Recognizing John 20:16
 - (2) Rejoicing John 20:17
 - (3) Reporting John 20:18
- II. To the Group of Women Matthew 28:9-15
 - A. The Devotion of the Women Matthew 28:9-10
 1. Note his phrase, “Go to my brethren.” There is a progressive intimacy between Jesus and his disciples. He calls them servants (John 13:13), friends (John 15:15), and here, brethren.
 2. Note also the phrase, “I ascend unto my Father.” Some hold that Christ ascended that very first Easter Sunday to sprinkle his blood as the ultimate sacrifice within the heavenly sanctuary. [Hebrews 9:11-14]
 - B. The Deception of the Soldiers Matthew 28:11-15

1. They Told the Truth Matthew 28:11-14
 2. They Sold the Truth Matthew 28:15
 - a. There are at least two glaring flaws in this “official explanation concerning the empty tomb.”
 - b. In the first place, the soldiers were to say they had fallen asleep. But if so, how could they have known that “his disciples came... and stole him away”?
 - c. In the second place, if it were true, why were they not put to death for sleeping on duty? (See Acts 12:19)
- III. To Simon Peter Luke 24:34, I Corinthians 15:5
- A. What a meeting this must have been.
 - B. The last time these two saw each other, the one was bitterly cursing and denying the other.
- IV. To Two Disciples En Route to Emmaus Mark 16:12-13, Luke 24:13-35
- A. The Reunion with Jesus Luke 24:13-16
 - B. The Request from Jesus Luke 24:17
 - C. The Reply to Jesus
 1. The Facts Luke 24:18-20
 2. The Frustration Luke 24:21-24
 - D. The Rebuke by Jesus
 1. Chiding Luke 24:25-26
 2. Correcting Luke 24:27
 - E. The Recognition of Jesus
 1. The Meal Luke 24:28-30
 2. The Miracle Luke 24:31
 - a. Following his resurrection our Lord was eventually recognized when He performed the simplest of tasks:
 - b. After pronouncing a name John 20:16
 - c. After a simple greeting Matthew 28:9
 - d. After the breaking of bread Luke 24:30-31
 3. The Meditation Luke 24:32
 - F. The Report Concerning Jesus Luke 24:33-35
- V. To the Apostles in the Upper Room Mark 16:14, Luke 24:36-48, John 20:19-23
- A. Appearing to His Disciples
 1. Their Thoughts of Fear Luke 24:36-37
 2. His Words of Cheer Luke 24:38-40
 - B. Eating with His Disciples Luke 24:41-43
 - C. Breathing on His Disciples John 20:21-23
 - D. Reasoning with His Disciples Luke 24:45
- VI. To Thomas and the Apostles John 20:24-31
- A. The Report to Thomas John 20:24-25a
 - B. The Reluctance of Thomas John 20:25b

- C. The Recognition by Thomas
 - 1. The Manifestation John 20:26
 - 2. The Invitation John 20:27
 - a. What kind of body did Jesus have after his resurrection? This is of great importance to the Christian, for he or she will someday have a similar body, as testified by both Paul and John (see Phil. 3:21; 1 John 3:1-3).
 - b. His new body had flesh and bone (Luke 24:39-40).
 - c. He ate food in the new body (Luke 24:41-43; John 21:12-13; Acts 10:41).
 - d. His new body still bore the marks of his crucifixion (John 20:25-27; Luke 24:40; Rev. 5:6).
 - e. His new body was not subjected to material laws (John 20:19; Luke 24:31, 36).
 - 3. The Adoration John 20:28
 - 4. The Observation John 20:29
 - 5. The Evaluation John 20:30-31

- VII. To Seven Apostles by the Sea of Galilee John 21
 - A. The Cancellation John 21:1-3
 - B. The Command John 21:4-6
 - C. The Coals John 21:9-13
 - D. The Confession John 21:15-17
 - E. The Cross John 21:18-19
 - F. The Confusion John 21:20-23

- VIII. To the Apostles and 500 Disciples Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:15-18, I Corinthians 15:6
 - A. The Great Crowd I Corinthians 15:6
 - 1. The Twofold Reaction Matthew 28:17
 - 2. The Fourfold Reassurance Mark 16:17-18
 - B. The Great Commission Matthew 28:18-20

- IX. To James, the Half Brother of Christ I Corinthians 15:7

- X. To the Eleven on the Mount of Olives Luke 24:49-50, Acts 1:3-8
 - A. The Final Command Acts 1:4
 - B. The Final Question Acts 1:6-7
 - C. The Final Promise Acts 1:8
 - D. The Final Blessing Luke 24:50

- XI. To Saul, Later Paul the Apostle I Corinthians 15:8, Acts 9:1-9

Conclusion: Christ is ascended into heaven Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:51-53, Acts 1:9-11

- 1. Notice Where He Ascended Mark 16:19

2. Notice How He Ascended Acts 1:9
 - a. He came in the Cradle
 - b. He left in the Cloud
3. Notice Why He Ascended
 - a. He went to Prepare John 14:2-3
 - b. He went to Pray Hebrews 4:14, Romans 8:34
 - c. He went to Propitiate Hebrews 7:25, I John 2:1-2, 4:10, Romans 3:25