

Ephesians 4:8-10

1. Jesus _____ to the dead.

Luke 23:46

What is death?

- Separation
- A dividing of things that ought to be united
- Separation from God
- Ephesians 2:1-2

Death marks the separation of the soul from the body, but what happens to these two parts after it happens?

- Psalm 16:10
- Acts 2:29-32

What is "Sheol"?

- OT - the place of the souls of the dead, both the righteous and the wicked
- NT - translated as Hades

In the NT, the most extended depiction of the afterlife is found in Luke 16:19-31... shows two "compartments":

1. Hades proper - a place of torment
2. "Abraham's Bosom" - a place of comfort & rest

Where did Jesus go when He died?

- Luke 23:42-43
- Following his death for sin, Jesus journeyed to Hades, to the City of Death
- Psalm 49:15
- Psalm 86:13
- Psalm 89:48

The OT saints had waited there for so long looking forward to the coming Messiah

- After his resurrection, Jesus ascends to heaven and brings the ransomed dead with him
- Now paradise is no longer near the place of torment, but in the third heaven
- 2 Corinthians 12:2-4

Now when someone dies:

- The **righteous** depart to be with Christ
 - Philippians 1:21-23
 - 2 Corinthians 5:8
- The **wicked** remain in Hades waiting for the final judgement
 - Revelation 20:13-15

2. Jesus _____ from the dead.

Luke 24:1-11

Jesus' friends were the first to discover the "reality of the resurrection"

- The disciples had a strange response to the women's message
- Luke 24:11 - "nonsense"

Still today, many people do not believe in the Resurrection

- Even some churches question this truth
- Skeptics ask how we can be so certain

3. Three _____ we can be certain of Jesus' resurrection:

1) Testimony of Eye Witnesses

- Deuteronomy 19:15
- 2 Corinthians 13:1
- He appeared to Mary Magdalene, the other women who went to the tomb, Peter, the two on road to Emmaus, the 10 Apostles, the 11 Apostles, the 7 Apostles running from their calling, the Apostles on a mountain top, to more than 500 followers, His brother James, and the disciples near Bethany
- Matthew 29:12-13
- Acts 1:3

2) Testimony of Scripture - throughout the bible the resurrection of the Christ was clearly spoken

- Luke 24:6
- Psalm 16:10
- Luke 9:22
- Acts 2:23-24
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-5
- 1 Peter 1:3
- Revelation 1:18

3) Testimony of Transformed Lives

- When you observe how the risen Christ transforms people's lives, there can be no doubt of the reality of the resurrection
- Today, the risen Christ is still transforming lives

Wrap-Up (How do you respond?)

IS Christ resurrected?

Have YOU met the resurrected Christ?