

The Dawn of New Creation

Study #4

Q: What does Jesus' resurrection prove?

Q: What does Jesus resurrection mean for you?

Read [1Cor. 15:20-26](#)

*"But in fact **Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.** ²¹ For as by a man came death, **by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.** ²² For as in Adam all die, so also **in Christ shall all be made alive.** ²³ But each in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.**" (ESV)*

Q #1: How can we be certain Jesus' resurrection happened? (see [1Cor. 15:1-8](#))

Q #2: What does Paul mean when he says Jesus is the *"firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep"*? (see [Ex. 23:16, 19](#); [John 5:28-29](#); [Dan. 12:2](#); [John 11:24](#); [Acts 23:6](#); [Acts 24:15](#))

Read [2Cor. 5:17](#)

*"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **the new creation has come:** The old has gone, the new is here!" (NIV)*

Q #3: What is the "new creation"?

Read [Acts 17:30-31](#)

*"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that **all people everywhere should repent,** ³¹ because **He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness** through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead." (NASB)*

Q #4: Some people think that Jesus' resurrection proves He is God. What should the resurrection prove to us?

TRUTH TO REMEMBER: New Creation has started, and you can be part of it!!

Read [Acts 2:37-40](#)

*"Now when they heard this **they were cut to the heart,** and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, **"Brothers, what shall we do?"** ³⁸ And Peter said to them, **"Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** ³⁹ For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." ⁴⁰ And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, **"Save yourselves from this crooked generation."** (ESV)*

What will the resurrection mean for you? This is THE question that will define the rest of your life not only here in this world that is passing away ([1Cor. 7:31](#)) but also in the age to come ([Luke 18:29-30](#)). If you want to be a part of new creation, then let's keep studying and find out how to enter the Kingdom of God and what living for Jesus and the Gospel in this world is all about!

Notes:

Q #1: How can we be certain Jesus' resurrection happened?

- All of the eyewitness accounts (**1Cor. 15:1-8**)!
 - Claiming someone as controversial as Jesus had come back to life after Rome had crucified Him would bring serious trouble your way. There is no way anyone would make this claim and suffer for it if it wasn't true.
- For more: <http://pleaseconvinceme.com/2013/the-minimal-facts-of-the-resurrection/>

Q #2: What does Paul mean when he says Jesus is the "firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep"?

- "Firstfruits" is what they called the first agricultural produce of a season.
 - God required His people to sacrifice their "firstfruits" which expressed both their gratitude and trust that God would bring the rest of the harvest (**Ex. 23:16, 19**).
- Jesus is just the first to be resurrected—the "firstfruits" – which means God plans on resurrecting everyone (**Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29**) when Jesus returns!
 - Most (but not all) Jews in Paul's day were expecting a resurrection of **all the dead**. However, they thought it would happen on the Last Day (**John 11:24**), not to one man now and then everyone else later.
 - Paul argued Jesus' resurrection proved **THE RESURRECTION** Daniel prophesied had begun, which got him in a lot of trouble (**Acts 23:6; Acts 24:15**)!
- Jesus' resurrection was **the beginning of the New Creation** (**Col 1:15-20**) and the restoration of all things (**Acts 3:21**)

Q #3: What is the "new creation"?

- The "new creation" is what will replace the "original creation."
- The New Creation has already started with God's people and will end with the whole creation being restored and renewed.
 - When it is finished the "new creation" will include new heavens and a new earth (**Is. 65:17, 66:22; 2Peter 3:13; Rev. 21:1; Rom. 8:21-24**) and new bodies like Jesus' resurrection body (**1Cor. 15:35-49; Rom. 6:5**)!
 - If we are in Him, then we are a part of what's coming!

Q #4: Some people think that Jesus' resurrection proves He is God. What should the resurrection prove to us?

- Jesus **IS** God (**John 1:1-18, Phil 2:6-11**), but other people in the Bible were also raised to life after they died (**John 11:43-44; 1Kings 17:22; Luke 8:54-55**), and no one thought it meant they were God.
- The resurrection proves:
 1. God "**has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness.**"
 2. That we need to "**repent**", which means **we need to change the way we think and act!**
- The Last Day, the day God has "**fixed**" to judge the world, will come when no one expects it (**Luke 12:40; 2Peter 3:10**) so we need to repent and get right **NOW** ... before we lose our chance (**2Peter 3:9**)!