

Sunday, April 24, 2022

Jesus is Alive

Jesus' Appearances After His Resurrection

- To Mary Magdalene at the empty tomb in Jerusalem (Mark 16:9; John 20:11–18).
- To other women at the empty tomb (Matt. 28:1–10).
- To two followers on their way to Emmaus (Mark 16:12–13; Luke 24:13–32).
- To Peter, apparently in Jerusalem (Luke 24:33–35).
- To ten of His disciples in Jerusalem, Thomas absent (Luke 24:36—43; John 20:19–25).
- To the eleven disciples in Jerusalem, Thomas present (John 20:26–29).
- To His disciples at Lake Galilee (John 21:1–14).
- To His disciples at His ascension near Jerusalem (Mark 16:19—20; Luke 24:44–53).
- These appearances were to five hundred believers (1 Cor. 15:6)
- To James and all the apostles (1 Cor. 15:7)
- To Paul himself (1 Cor. 15:8). *Acts 1:3 also mentions the post-resurrection appearances*

1 Corinthians 15:14-22... ¹⁴ *And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.* ¹⁵ *More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised.* ¹⁶ *For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either.* ¹⁷ *And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins.* ¹⁸ *Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost.* ¹⁹ *If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.* ²⁰ *But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.* ²¹ *For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man.* ²² *For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.*

Some of the following is adapted from Posted on APRIL 24, 2011 Written by MARK MCINTYRE <https://www.mhmcintyre.us/four-lessons-from-the-resurrection/> Four Lessons from the resurrection

Lessons To Learn From the Post-Resurrection Appearances of Jesus

1. Jesus Is Who He said He Was, & Can Do What He Says He Will
2. Despair & Doubt Do Not Have Power Over Us
3. Sin can be overcome
4. Renewal is available
5. The grave is not our final destination

1. Jesus Is Who He Said He Was, & Can Do What He Says He Will

Before Abraham was, I AM

“Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.’ ” (John 8:58 ESV)

I Am the Bread of Life

“Jesus said to them, ‘I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.’ ” (John 6:35 ESV)

I Am the Light of the World

“Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, ‘I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.’ ” (John 8:12 ESV)

I Am the Door

“So Jesus again said to them, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.’ ” (John 10:7–9 ESV)

I Am the Good Shepherd

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep,

sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.” (John 10:11–15 ESV)

I Am the Resurrection and the Life

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?’ She said to him, ‘Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.’ ” (John 11:25–27 ESV)

I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’ ” (John 14:6 ESV)

I Am the True Vine

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. (John 15:1–2 ESV)

2. Despair & Doubt Do Not Have Power Over Us

“It’s Friday but Sunday’s Coming” is a message by African American preacher S. M. Lockridge. The point is that no matter how bleak it looked on that first Good Friday, the events of the following Sunday made all the difference in the disciples’ outlook. The resurrection demonstrates to me that no matter how bad things might look right now, God has the power to change me and/or change my circumstances. God remains in control and as I look to him, I can be assured that he will arrange the outcome according to his plan. Paul tells us this in **Romans 8:28**, but a few verses later in that chapter (**Romans 8:38-39**), he assures us of God’s love for us.

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Because of God’s power and love, I should never despair”. (Mark McIntyre)

3. Sin can be overcome

“One of the best short descriptions of what Jesus accomplished on the cross is found in

2 Corinthians 5:21... ***God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.***

Jesus took our sin and gave us his righteousness. The resurrection proves that Jesus has the power to accomplish this. Paul tells us in **1 Corinthians 15:17** that “***if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.***” The converse is that if Jesus has been raised then we can be freed from our sin.

Ultimately, sin will be overcome when Jesus returns, but until then sin is being overcome in believers. God is working.

I should never think that there is any sin that the cross and resurrection cannot overcome”. (Mark McIntyre)

4. Renewal is available

1 Corinthians 15:21-22 tells us that “***in Christ shall all be made alive.***

“Not only can our sins be removed, we can be renewed in our thinking and in our behavior if we are in Christ. The resurrection demonstrates the power of God to bring renewal. In Christ, I have the power available to become what God has intended me to be. I should always remember this and be doggedly, unrelentingly, seeking from God this renewal”. (Mark McIntyre)

5. The grave is not our final destination

In **John 14:1-3**, Jesus tells the disciples that he is going to prepare a place for them and that “***I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.***”

“This is true for all believers. The resurrection proves that Jesus has the power to live up to this claim. He will come and take us to Himself and we will dwell with Him. We should always live with the knowledge that this life is not all there is and that any struggles now will be forgotten in the glory that is to come”.

(Mark McIntyre)