



The Resurrection of Christ

Lesson 8

In the last lesson we learned that the Son of God died completely, and that His soul was made an offering for sin, not his body only. We saw how the prophecies of Psalm 88 applied to Christ. In this lesson we will discover what took place after His death.

1. Just prior to Christ's death, what did Jesus tell His disciples that they would do?

John 16:32 _____

2. What does Psalm 88 say about Christ's acquaintances (his friends)?

Psalm 88:8 _____

3. What is meant by the words, "I am shut up, and I cannot come forth"?

Psalm 88:8 _____

4. Who raised Jesus from the dead?

Galatians 1:1 _____

5. Whose "mighty power" was demonstrated when Christ was raised from the dead?

Ephesians 1:17-20 _____

6. If someone else exercised his power in raising Jesus from the dead, how would Paul have had to reword his statement?

Ephesians 1:19, 20 _____

7. Here is a list of over 30 verses that say the Father raised His Son from the dead: Acts 2:24,30,32; 3:15,26; 4:10; 5:30; 10:40; 13:23,30,33,34,37; 17:31; 26:8; Romans 4:24,25; 6:4; 8:11; 10:9; 1 Corinthians 6:14; 15:15; 2 Corinthians 4:14; Galatians 1:1; Ephesians 1:20; Colossians 2:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 2 Timothy 2:8; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 1:3,21. Can you find any more verses that teach this truth?

8. How did Jesus explain His dependence upon His Father?

John 5:30 _____

9. How did Jesus describe His time in the tomb?

Revelation 1:18 _____

10. How much do the dead know?

Ecclesiastes 9:5 _____

11. When a person dies, what happens to their thoughts?

Psalms 146:4 _____

When Christ was dead He did not know anything, for His thought processes had stopped. He could not do anything at all, and certainly could not have raised Himself from the dead. Instead, He relied upon someone else to raise Him from the dead.

12. When Christ was here, He prayed to the One who was able to do what?

Hebrews 5:7 _____

It would have been a mockery for Christ to have cried out to His Father to save Him from death, if all the while He was immortal and able to save Himself from death. Christ died completely, friends, and He relied upon His Father to resurrect Him. He said, “Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit” (Luke 23:46), indicating His complete dependence upon His Father to save Him out of death, and His willingness to entrust His eternal life into the hands of His Father.

Many Christians believe that when Jesus was on earth He was omniscient (all knowing), omnipotent (all powerful), omnipresent (having the ability to be all places at once), and immortal. These misconceptions keep people from being able to appreciate the magnitude of Christ’s sacrifice and suffering in our behalf.

13. What was at least one thing Jesus did not know when He was here?

Mark 13:32 _____

14. How does this verse show that Jesus did not know everything?

Luke 2:52 _____

15. Why was Christ made lower than the angels?

Hebrews 2:9 _____

16. Who is the only One who has absolute immortality?

1 Timothy 6:14-16 _____

We have seen that Jesus was not immortal, all powerful nor all knowing. Any one of these attributes would have prevented Jesus from being able to suffer and experience fear or turmoil in the garden of Gethsemane or on the cross. We have also seen that God, the Father, raised Jesus from the dead, and that He could not raise Himself from the dead or He would not have been dead to begin with.

17. What did Jesus say He had power to do?

John 10:17, 18 _____

The word translated, “power,” in this verse means “authority.” It is the same word used when Jesus spoke with authority (Mark 1:22).

18. From Whom did Jesus receive this authority or “commandment”?

John 10:18

The Greek word, λαμβανω, that was translated “take” in this verse was also translated “received” at the end of this verse. The King James Version translated this verse in a way that makes it appear that Jesus had the power to raise Himself from the dead, but this would contradict over 30 verses that say the Father raised Him. The KJV translation is not completely accurate in this case. Notice some other translations of this statement: “I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to receive it again. This is the command which I received from my Father” (*Twentieth Century NT*). “Authority, have I, to lay it down, and, authority, have I, again, to receive it: This commandment, received I, from my Father” (*1902 Rotherham Bible*). “I am authorized to lay it down, and I am authorized to receive it back again. This is the command I received from my Father” (*1912 Weymouth NT Translation*). “authority I have to lay down her, and authority I have again to receive her; this the command I received from the Father of me” (*1865 Diaglot NT*).

The above translations are correct in the way they render the words “authority” and “receive.” Jesus was not stating that He could raise Himself from the dead. The prophecy in Psalm 88:8 was true of Him, which says, “I am shut up, and cannot come forth.”

It was an immense sacrifice for God to yield up His only-begotten Son for us, yet He was willing to do it. If there was any other way that the human race could have been redeemed, God would have done it. Paul wrote, “I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.” (Galatians 2:21) Redemption comes to us only through “the blood of Jesus Christ.” God demonstrated His love by sending His Son to die for you. Please surrender your life to Him and invite Him to live in your heart.

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