

**Exploring the 'I AM' statements of Jesus (7):
Devotional Questions: John 11:23-27, 40-44**

PART 1: **I AM** *the Resurrection*

1. *What is the background to this statement?*
2. *What did Jesus say?*
3. *What did Martha think Jesus meant?*
4. *There is a resurrection:*
 - a.
 - b.
 - c. *(See John 11:40)*

PART 2: **I AM** *the Life*

1. *Why would Martha find it hard to believe what Jesus said?*
2. *What does Jesus promise (John 11:25-26)?*
3. *What life is Jesus talking about?*
4. *How could Jesus prove His words were true?*

PART 3: *Resurrection*

1. *What Old Testament passages support resurrection?*
2. *What 4 things did Martha believe about Jesus (John 11:21, 27)?*
3. *What miracle did the raising of Lazarus picture?*
4. *Who raised Jesus from the dead?*
 - a. *John 2:19-21, 10:18*
 - b. *Romans 8:11*
 - c. *Galatians 1:1, Ephesians 1:20*
5. *What does this mean for us today?*

Resurrection – Old Testament References

“For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God” Job 19:25-26.

“For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption” Psalm 16:10.

“Thy dead men shall live, together with my dead body shall they arise. Awake and sing, ye that dwell in dust: for thy dew is as the dew of herbs, and the earth shall cast out the dead” Isaiah 26:19.

“So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army” Ezekiel 37:10.

“After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight” Hosea 6:2.

Resurrection – New Testament References

“And go quickly, and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead; and, behold, he goeth before you into Galilee; there shall ye see him: lo, I have told you” Matthew 28:7.

“And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean” Mark 9:10.

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” John 2:19.

“When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said” John 2:22.

“Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?” John 11:25-26.

“He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption” Acts 2:31.

“And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all” Acts 4:33.

“That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first that should rise from the dead, and should shew light unto the people, and to the Gentiles” Acts 26:23.

“And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead” Romans 1:4.

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” Romans 6:4.

“Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him” Romans 6:9.

“Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God” Romans 6:13.

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” Romans 8:11.

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” Romans 10:9.

“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept” 1 Corinthians 15:20.

“And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence” Colossian 1:18.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” 1 Peter 1:3.

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ” 1 Peter 3:21.

“Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years” Revelation 20:6.

The above lists are not exhaustive.

Additional Associated References

“resurrection of the dead” Matthew 22:31, Acts 17:32, 23:6, 24:15, 21, 1 Corinthians 15:12, 13, 21, 42, Philippians 3:11, Hebrews 6:2

“the last day” John 6:39, 40, 44, 54, 11:24, 12:48

**Exploring the 'I AM' statements of Jesus (7):
Devotional Questions – Answers to Questions:**

See Dr Ruckman's commentaries *The Book of John* pp 201-202, 351-354, 356-359, *The Book of Revelation* pp 519-520 and the *Ruckman Reference Bible* p 1406 for detailed comment.

PART 1: **I AM** *the Resurrection*

1. *What is the background to this statement?*

Death. **"Man that is born of a woman is of few days, and full of trouble"** Job 14:1. Today's believer can rejoice that the Lord Jesus Christ came to change that, robbing death the great thief of victory according to Isaiah 25:8 **"He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken it"** as the Lord Jesus Christ Himself said. **"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly"** John 10:10.

See the attached study **BREAKING NEWS - THE EMPTY TOMB!**

2. *What did Jesus say?*

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" John 11:25-26. The Lord's promise holds true today as Paul assures today's believer. **"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality"** 1 Corinthians 15:52-53.

3. *What did Martha think Jesus meant?*

Martha thought that the Lord was referring to **"the last day"** according to John 6:39 **"And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day."** Martha partly understood resurrection as the Jews did as Paul summarises in Acts 24:14-15 **"But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust."**

Today's believer has the assurance of resurrection *before* **"the last day"** of 1 John 3:2 **"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."**

4. *There is a resurrection:*

a. *General.* See again Acts 24:14-15 **"But this I confess unto thee, that after the way which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets: And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust."**

b. *Personal.* **"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"** John 11:25-26. See again *Question 2* with respect to **"...the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body"** Romans 8:23 whereby the Lord's promise holds true today as Paul assures today's believer. **"In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality"** 1 Corinthians 15:52-53.

- c. *Physical* (See John 11:40 “**Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?**”) and Question 4b with respect to “**...the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body**” Romans 8:23.

PART 2: **I AM** *the Life*’

1. Why would Martha find it hard to believe what Jesus said?

She didn’t understand it. Even the disciples didn’t. “**And as they came down from the mountain, he charged them that they should tell no man what things they had seen, till the Son of man were risen from the dead. And they kept that saying with themselves, questioning one with another what the rising from the dead should mean**” Mark 9:9-10. Today’s believer has that understanding because as Paul testifies “**For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection...For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord**” Romans 6:5, 11.

2. What does Jesus promise (John 11:25-26)?

See **PART 1** Questions 2, 4b and note 2 Corinthians 1:20 “**For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.**”

3. What life is Jesus talking about?

The Lord Jesus Christ is referring to “**...the life of God...**” Ephesians 4:18 with which He has gifted today’s believer according to John 10:28 “**And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.**”

4. How could Jesus prove His words were true?

The Lord Jesus Christ did so according to John 2:19, 21-22 “**Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up...he spake of the temple of his body. When therefore he was risen from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this unto them; and they believed the scripture, and the word which Jesus had said.**”

Note Psalm 16:10 “**For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption**” prophetically for the Lord Jesus Christ and therefore for today’s believer, see **PART 1** Question 1 and Isaiah 25:8 that Paul cites as 1 Corinthians 15:54 “**So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.**”

PART 3: **Resurrection**’

1. What Old Testament passages support resurrection?

See *Resurrection – Old Testament References* Job 19:25-26, Psalm 16:10, Isaiah 26:19, Ezekiel 37:10, Hosea 6:2 and note therefore for today’s believer **PART 2** Question 4 **PART 1** Question 1 and Isaiah 25:8 that Paul cites as 1 Corinthians 15:54 “**So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.**”

2. What 4 things did Martha believe about Jesus (John 11:21, 27)?

John 11:21, 27 state “**Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died...She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.**” What Martha had still to understand about the Lord Jesus Christ is what today’s believer now experiences according to John 5:21 “**For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.**”

3. What miracle did the raising of Lazarus picture?

See again **PART 1 Questions 2, 4b** with respect to **“...the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body”** Romans 8:23 whereby the Lord’s promise holds true today as Paul assures today’s believer. **“In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality”** 1 Corinthians 15:52-53.

4. Who raised Jesus from the dead?

a. **John 2:19-21 “Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up”** John 2:19, **“No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father”** John 10:18

b. **“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you”** Romans 8:11

c. **“Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)”** Galatians 1:1, **“Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places”** Ephesians 1:20

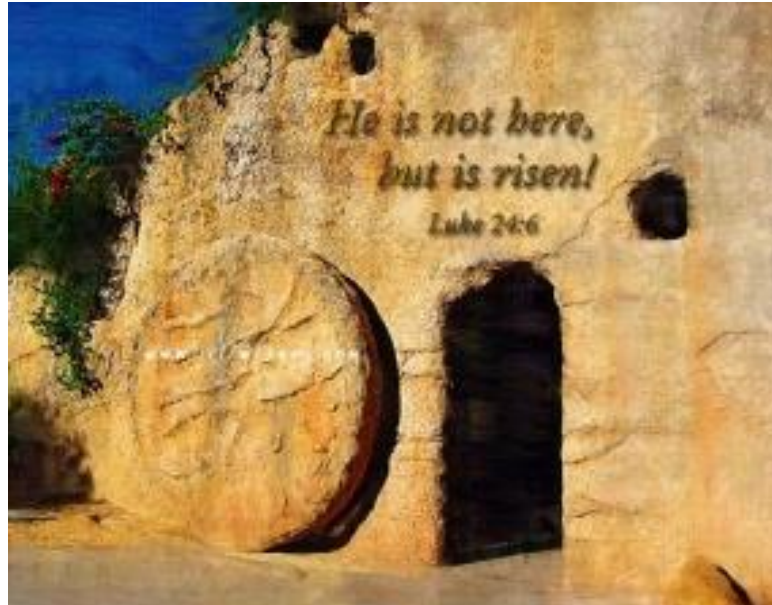
In sum **“...the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one”** 1 John 5:7 were one in **“...the resurrection of the Lord Jesus...”** Acts 4:33 and therefore in the light of that heavenly triad of Victors over death today’s believer should **“...go in the strength of the Lord GOD...”** Psalm 71:16 to testify as Peter does.

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead” 1 Peter 1:3.

5. What does this mean for us today?

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” Romans 6:4.

BREAKING NEWS - THE EMPTY TOMB!



“He is not here, but is risen” Luke 24:6

kimsingletary.com/2011/04/sunday-always-comes/

Breaking News - The Best News Ever

Folk today love news. That’s why there’s so many news outlets today. It’s always been like that even without today’s news media.

It was the same 2000 years ago in Athens. ***“(For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.)”*** Acts 17:21. The best ***“new thing”*** this world ever got also came 2000 years ago, old news but still the *best* news.

Breaking News – The Empty Tomb

The best news this world ever got came from a surprising place. *It came from a graveyard.*

This graveyard had an *empty* grave. The man they put in it wouldn’t stay dead *and didn’t stay dead!* Three days after they buried Him, His tomb was empty. His tomb had *not* been robbed. *Death itself had been robbed!*

Breaking News – The Risen Christ

Who had robbed death of its victim? Let the ex-victim Himself testify!

“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death” Revelation 1:18.

The ex-victim’s testimony is forever a matter of *Biblical* record, ***“the truth of God”*** Romans 1:25 ***“the testimony of Jesus Christ...signified unto his servant John: Who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ”*** Revelation 1:1-2.

Breaking News – The Risen Saviour

The question arises, why had Jesus Christ died in the first place? St Paul the apostle answered that question as his top priority **“first of all.”**

“For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures” 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. *This is important for you! Why?*

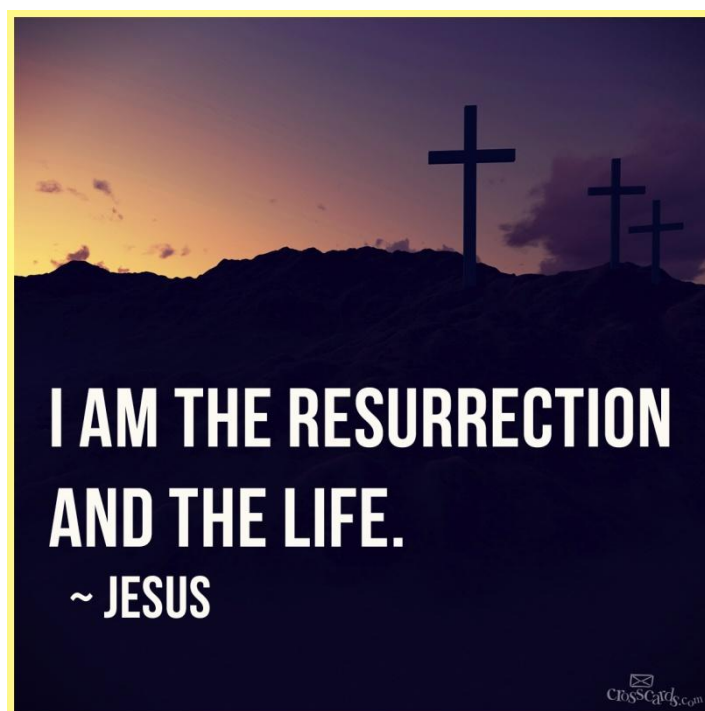
Breaking News – Your Risen Saviour

St Paul said **“Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures”**:

Nearly 3000 years ago, Isaiah said of Jesus that **“the LORD...shalt make his soul an offering for sin”** Isaiah 53:10. That's so you won't have to because if you do, you'll die, forever. The LORD says why. **“Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die”** Ezekiel 18:4. Jesus Christ will then lock you in hell - forever. He is **“the LORD”** because He has **“the keys of hell and of death.”** *But note! It doesn't have to be!* **“Christ...rose again the third day according to the scriptures.”** He's alive! He's alive for you! Isaiah 53:10 says **“the LORD...shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days.”** Yours too!

Breaking News – Your Days Prolonged! How?

Easy! Ask Jesus to save you from sin, death and hell and make you **“alive for evermore.”** He'll do it! He's promised **“him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out”** John 6:37 as St Paul said 2 Corinthians 1:20 **“For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen.”** AMEN!



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