

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 7 - Part 2

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST

Proof of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ

1. What three things happened at the end of the earthly life of Jesus Christ?

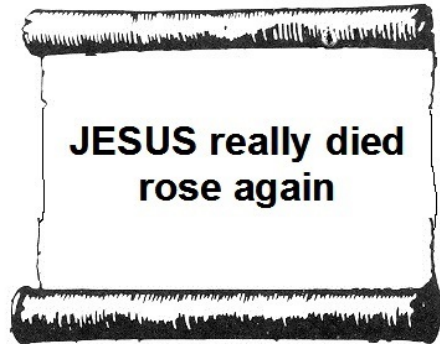
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What is special or different about the leader of the Christian religion?

2. Jesus Christ died, was buried, and rose again. He is different than the leaders of all the other religions because He is alive now.

In this lesson we want to learn that:

- People believed Jesus Christ really died. We will look at six people who believed Jesus really died.
- The empty tomb is one proof that Jesus Christ is alive.



Why can a living person not be brought back to life again?

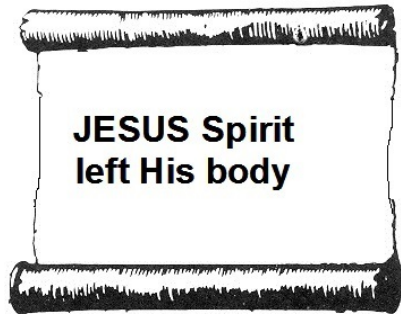
3. A living person lives. He need not and cannot be brought back to life again. A person must first die before he can be brought back to life. How do we know Jesus really died? The Bible tells us in a number of ways.

John 19:30

When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

What did Jesus do?

4. Jesus gave up his spirit. When the spirit leaves the body, the person is dead. The life has been separated from the body.



Luke 23:46

Jesus called out with a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit." When he had said this, he breathed his last.

What shows that Jesus died?

5. Jesus breathed his last. Have you ever stood beside a person who is dying? The breathing often gets noisier, then irregular and all of a sudden he is very, very quiet. He has stopped breathing. Then you feel no pulse. Every muscle goes limp and the colour in the face changes. We say, "He has died."

The Jews were preparing for a special Sabbath when Jesus was crucified. They did not want people to hang on crosses on the Sabbath. The Jews asked Pilate to have the legs broken of those on the crosses so they would die that day. The soldiers went to do this.

John 19:33

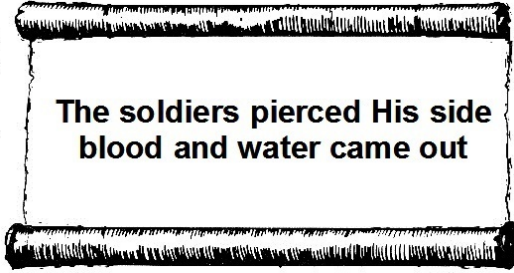
But when they came to Jesus and found that he was already dead, they did not break his legs.

Why did the soldiers not break the legs of Jesus?

6. The soldiers found that Jesus was already dead and so they did not break his legs.

John 19:34

Instead, one of the soldiers pierced Jesus' side with a spear, bringing a sudden flow of blood and water.

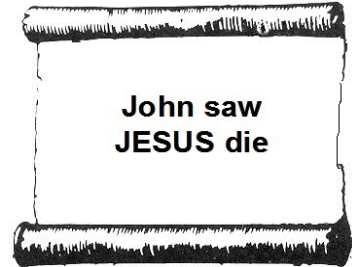


How did they prove that Jesus was already dead?

7. They pierced the side of Jesus and water and blood flowed out. When the blood and water separate, it shows that death has come. The soldiers believed Jesus was dead. John saw what the soldiers did. This is what he said about it.

John 19:35

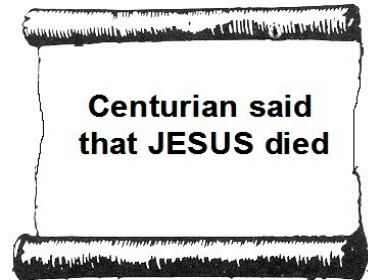
The man who saw it has given testimony, and his testimony is true. He knows that he tells the truth, and he testifies so that you also may believe.



Who else believed Jesus was dead?

8. The writer of the book, John, also believed Jesus was dead.

Joseph of Arimathea wanted to bury the body of Jesus. He asked Pilate for the body. Pilate was surprised that Jesus was dead and so he checked with the centurion.



Mark 15:44,45

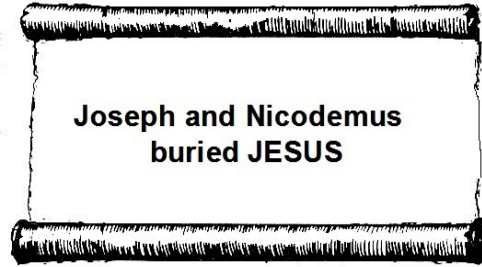
Pilate was surprised to hear that he was already dead. Summoning the centurion, he asked him if Jesus had already died. When he learned from the centurion that it was so, he gave the body to Joseph.

Who said Jesus was dead?

9. The centurion said Jesus was dead. He had kept watch while the soldiers crucified Jesus and the two thieves.

Joseph brought linen and Nicodemus brought lots of spices. Together they buried Jesus.

Read John 19:38-42.



What showed that Joseph and Nicodemus believed Jesus was dead?

10. Joseph and Nicodemus buried Jesus. They believed He was dead.

Read Luke 23:55,56.

The women stood and watched the men bury Jesus. We know they believed Jesus was dead because they went to prepare more spices.

Who believed Jesus was dead?

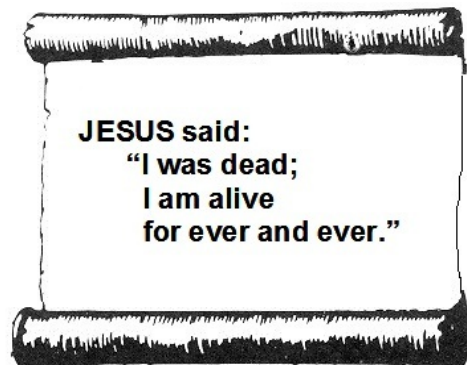
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and

11. The soldiers, John, the centurion, Joseph and Nicodemus, and the women who followed Jesus, believed He was dead.

Revelation 1:18

I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.



Who said He was dead?

12. Jesus Himself said that He was dead. In the same verse He also says that He is the living One. Some people say that only the spirit of Jesus came back to life. They say Jesus did not have a real body.



We believe Jesus had a real body. Do you know why? We will look at one reason today and at more reasons in the next part. Jesus had said that He would rise from the dead the third day. The Jewish leaders remembered these words.

Read Matthew 27:62-66.

What did the rulers ask Pilate to do?

13. They asked Pilate to put a guard or watch at the tomb. Pilate let them have soldiers to guard the dead body in the tomb.

Could the disciples steal the body of Jesus?

14. No, the disciples could not steal the body of Jesus. The stone was sealed as well. This means to put a stamp of wax on the stone. If any one broke a seal, it would be known.

Read Matthew 28:11-15.

Did the soldiers believe that the disciples stole the body of Jesus?

Why did they say that the disciples took the body of Jesus?

15. The soldiers knew Jesus rose from the dead. They told a lie to people

because they were given a lot of money.

Matthew 28:6 "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."	Mark 16:6 "Don't be alarmed," he said, "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him."	Luke 24:6 "He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee."
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Was the body of Jesus in the tomb?

What did the angels say?

16. The body of Jesus was not in the tomb. It was empty. The angels said Jesus had risen.

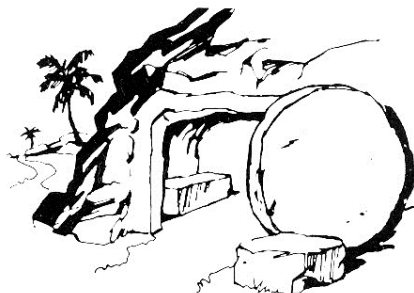
Read John 20:1-8.

What did Mary say?

What did Peter and John see?

- Was the tomb empty?
- Where were the linen cloths?
- How were the linen cloths laid?

17. THE TOMB OF JESUS WAS EMPTY. Mary said so. Peter and John found the tomb empty. They also found that the linen cloths were still in the grave. The cloths were just the way they had been around the body of Jesus. The body of Jesus had come out of them.



Jesus had risen from the dead. If men had stolen the body of Jesus, they would not have left the linen cloths. The soldiers stood there and guarded. Thieves would

not have taken time to take off the linen cloths.

The friends of Jesus found that the tomb was empty. The enemies of Jesus found that the tomb was empty. The body of Jesus came out of the tomb before the stone was rolled away. The stone was rolled away so the people could see that the tomb was empty.

18. Who believed Jesus was dead?

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What did the empty tomb show?

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