

EASTER PEOPLE



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❖ The most important question

If a man dies, shall he live again?...

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.

Can the dead live again? If so, **this would give me hope** through all my years of struggle, and **I would eagerly await the release of death.**

He has made everything beautiful in its time. **He has also set eternity in the human heart;** yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

And just as **it is appointed for man to die** once, and
after that comes judgment,

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You have an appointment coming that you may not like to think about.

You must choose whether you will just pretend it isn't going to happen, worry about it later, or be prepared for the day you know is coming.

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We get to choose today how we are going to feel on the day we take life's final exam.

- If a man dies, will he live again?



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❖ Is life after death even possible?

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Christianity is about faith, but it is not about blind faith.

Christianity makes a bold claim that there is life after death and an extraordinary claim like that must have extraordinary evidence.

The resurrection of Jesus provided the evidence.

Dr. Simon Greenleaf

Harvard University Law



Not a believer, he used to put down the Christians in his law classes.



Dr. Simon Greenleaf

Harvard University Law



...One year, Christian students challenged him to take his three volumes on the Laws of Legal Evidence and apply the principles to evidence for the resurrection of Christ...



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...In the process, he became a believer and concluded “the resurrection is one of the best established facts of history.”



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**It is impossible that the apostles
“could have persisted in affirming
the truths they had narrated...**



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...had not Jesus actually risen from the dead, and had they not known this fact as certainly as they knew any other fact.”



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Greenleaf concludes that the resurrection of Christ is one of the best-supported events in history according to the laws of legal evidence administered in courts of justice.



“Fellow Israelites, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch **David died** and was buried, and **his tomb is here to this day**. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne.

Seeing what was to come, **he spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah**, that he was not abandoned to the realm of the dead, nor did his body see decay.

God has raised this Jesus to life, and **we are all witnesses of it.**

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: 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, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.

After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep.

After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.



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- If a man dies, will he live again?
- Is life after death even possible?

❖ If we live again, what does that look like?

Just as people are destined to die once, and after that
to face judgment,

For to me, to live is Christ and **to die is gain.**

So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.
For we walk by faith, not by sight.

We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.

If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! I am torn between the two: **I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;** but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

... “Death has been swallowed up in **victory.**” “Where, O death, is your victory? **Where, O death, is your sting?**” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God! He gives us the **victory through**
our Lord Jesus Christ.



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- If a man dies, will he live again?
- Is life after death even possible?
- If we live again, what does that look like?

❖ How can I experience the life Jesus died to make possible?

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?”

If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved.

...“Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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