

## The Nature of the Resurrection

Luke 24:33-43, April 15, 2018

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The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ is an essential element of the gospel message. When you remove it from the gospel, you may have something, but you no longer have the gospel!

Here are some reasons why:

If Jesus doesn't rise from the dead, He is a false prophet and a \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 18:31-33)

If Jesus doesn't rise from the dead, we are still \_\_\_\_\_ in our sins and our faith is a waste of time. (1 Corinthians 15:17)

If Jesus doesn't rise, He's dead, and is therefore not \_\_\_\_\_, because God cannot be defeated by death. (Psalm 90:2)

Since the resurrection is so important, there is another question that needs to be answered: What is the precise *nature* of the resurrection?

The resurrection of Jesus Christ was \_\_\_\_\_! Luke and the other gospel writers go to great lengths to insure their readers do not misinterpret the event of Jesus' resurrection in such a way that it detracts from the bold truth of Jesus' bodily return.

### Luke 24:33-37

Just as he *disappeared* earlier in the presence of the Emmaus travelers, His *appearance* seems magical. Without a doubt, the disciples were startled by it and at first thought they were seeing a \_\_\_\_\_

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One of the earliest heresies that threatened the integrity of the gospel was a position called \_\_\_\_\_...

Docetism was an indirect product of Gnosticism, a philosophical way of thinking which held to two fundamental beliefs:

1. The spirit is intrinsically \_\_\_\_\_
2. The physical \_\_\_\_\_ is intrinsically bad.

If you bought into that dualistic way of thinking, it would present a dilemma: If all things that are physical are *wicked*, then Jesus could not be \_\_\_\_\_ and also possess a material body.

The term **Docetism** derives from the Greek word **DOKESIS** – which means 'an illusion', a phantom, something that seems to be real but has no actual substance.

**Docetism claimed that Jesus did not possess a *true* human nature. He only \_\_\_\_\_ as a man, but was in all ways divine.** This heresy threatens to undermine many important truths regarding our Savior:

1. How is Jesus able to \_\_\_\_\_ to us as the book of Hebrews boasts if He has not experienced life as we have? (Hebrews 4:14-16)
2. The wages of sin is death. If Jesus did not truly die, then our debt was not actually \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Scripture's \_\_\_\_\_ is tossed out the window if Jesus did not possess a physical body and a true human nature.

**\*Why is it important to understand a heresy that was relevant 1800 years ago?**

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**Vs. 38** – Jesus asks them why they are troubled. What would they learn about themselves if they answered that question honestly?

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**Vs. 39-40** – Jesus presents them with the very thing their finite minds longed for – the \_\_\_\_\_ that He is in fact real. He shows them His resurrected body.

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**\*Do not underestimate the power of your heart to \_\_\_\_\_ yourself!** Detailed doctrinal teachings like this are essential to your defense in the truth, and can help you protect your brothers and sisters from the despair of the enemy's deception. (Luke 5:19-20)