

The greatest philosophical
question ever asked

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Job 14:14 "If a man dies, will he
live again?"

Acts 26:8 "Why is it considered
incredible among you people if
God does raise the dead?

1 Cor 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain. 15 Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we witnessed against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised.

It is the time of the year when our
Lord died and rose again.

There is only one occurrence of the word “Easter” and only in the KJV.

Acts 12:4 And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover [Easter KJV only, 28 other places as Passover] to bring him out before the people.

Let's interview some of the men
around Jesus to see what their
thoughts were about the story of
the resurrection.

Thomas:

*Did you always believe that Jesus
has risen?*

No. I said, "Unless I shall see in
His hands the imprint of the nails,
and put my finger into the place
of the nails, and put my hand into
His side, I will not believe." Jn
20:25

*Thomas -- Did you believe what
your friends said about Jesus'
resurrection?*

No they said, "We have seen the
Lord!"

I told them, "Unless I shall see in
His hands the imprint of the nails,
and put my finger into the place
of the nails, and put my hand into
His side, I will not believe." Jn
20:25

*Thomas -- What made you change
your mind about Jesus
resurrection?*

Eight days after the other disciples told me He had risen, we were inside, the doors were closed and there stood Jesus, right in the middle of us. He said, "Peace be with you."

Then He told me,
"Reach here your finger, and see My hands;
and reach here your hand, and put it into My
side; and be not unbelieving, but believing."

Jn 20:26-27

*Thomas -- What is your current
belief about Jesus and his
resurrection?*

He is "My Lord and my God!" Jn
20:28

Peter:

*Did you always believe that Jesus
has risen?*

No, when they took him, I was
afraid and I followed at a distance.

Lk 22:54

Later when they asked if I was with
him I denied it. Lk 22:57

They kept on asking and I denied
him to several people because of the
accusation by a servant girl Mt
26:71 Lk 22:58

Finally, a relative of the High Priest's slave, whose ear I had earlier cut off, asked me about it and I cursed and swore that I was not with him. Lk 22:60 Jn 18:26

Mk 14:71

*Did you believe the testimony of
your friends?*

No, Mary Magdalene (Jn 20:18)
came and told us but we didn't
believe (Mk 16:11) and then two
friends claimed they had seen him
on the road to Emmaus (Mk
16:12-13)

Peter -- What made you change your mind?

We had given up and gone fishing – but we weren't catching anything. Jesus came walking by and told us to cast our nets on the other side. How did he know that? He was a carpenter and we were fishermen. Then we caught a huge number of big fish .

I swam to shore to see if it was really him. Later he asked us to cook some fish – that's how we really knew it was him, ghosts don't eat fish. Then He asked me three times to feed his sheep. In

21:6-19

*Peter -- What is your current belief about
Jesus and his resurrection?*

As I told the folks in my first sermon, He has
“been exalted to the right hand of God, and
having received from the Father the promise
of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this
which you both see and hear. ...

let all the house of Israel know
for certain that God has made
Him both Lord and Christ - this
Jesus whom you crucified."

(Acts 2:33-36)

Paul: *Describe your life prior to becoming a Christian.*

I was well educated (Acts 22:3) ,
wealthy, a Roman citizen (Acts 22:38)
and a member of the council of the
Jews (Acts 26:10), far above my peers
in the Jewish religion (Gal 1:14).

*Paul -- What made you change
your mind?*

I had seen many of the things Jesus had done but I was stubborn (Acts 26:14). Finally, the Lord appeared to me, blinded me and then restored my sight. While I was blind for those three days, I couldn't eat or drink — I just prayed about the things Jesus had done. (Acts 9:9)

*Paul -- What difference has this
conversion made in your life?*

Where I once persecuted
Christians (Acts 8:3) and voted to
put them to death for blasphemy
(Acts 26:10), I'm now a preacher
of the gospel of Jesus Christ. I
Tim 1:12-13

*Paul -- What is your current
belief about Jesus and his
resurrection?*

I told the church at Corinth “that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep; then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles; and last of all, as it were to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.” (I Cor 15:3-8)

*Paul -- Would you give up your
faith in Christ?*

Not even if an angel told me to
Gal 1:8

*When are Christians supposed to
celebrate His resurrection?*

Every first day of the week when
we come to church. We come to
eat the Supper He commanded
(Mt 26:29) on the very day of the
week He arose from the dead.

1 Cor 11:20 Therefore **when you meet together**, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, ... 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 Cor 16:2 On the first day of every week let each one of you ...

*Can we look forward to Jesus
coming to resurrect us?*

1 Cor 15:20 But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ... 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed.

For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, and remain until the coming of the Lord, shall not precede those who have fallen asleep.

For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore comfort one another
with these words. (1Thes 4:14-
18)

Do you believe in that resurrection?

If so, what will you do about it?

Act 2:38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.