

## THE RESURRECTION MYSTERY

Acts 13:36-37 ... "For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption; but He [Jesus] whom God raised up saw no corruption."

The word "corruption" in today's passages, does not refer to the corruption of politicians and businessmen. These verses are not about greed, theft, or the misappropriation of government funds. Corruption in today's verses refers to the decay of the human body, which begins right after life ends.

When King David died, he was buried, and his body saw corruption (decay). If someone were to have dug him up five years later, they would only have found his bones. But David's spirit never died. It went to heaven immediately upon death and has been there ever since in the presence of God. When Jesus died on the cross, he, too, was buried. But when the disciples went to the tomb, they did not find a body. At the moment of his death, his spirit immediately returned to the Father where he was restored to his equal role as God. But Jesus' spirit was also reunited with his restored and perfect body that remained on earth for another forty days as evidence of his resurrection.

Think about this: Jesus the man lived on earth for about 33 years and died. His spirit was then restored to his role as God and he resurrected himself and remained on earth for another forty days. People sometimes wonder how the apostles, who often questioned Jesus during his ministry and had doubts, suddenly became devoted authorities about God and were able to write the Gospels. I believe it happened in the forty days between the resurrection and Jesus' ascension back to heaven, when they were no longer being taught by a man (albeit a perfect and holy man), but now had direct access to God in the form of Jesus. There aren't many people in human history since Adam and Eve, who have experienced even a quick moment in the presence of God, but his disciples had that for up to forty days.

Some people read the Bible and try to apply their limited understanding of science to explain the mysteries of God. However, the God who created the universe and you and I, cannot be limited by man's self-made scientific explanations. Jesus violated many of man's laws of biology and physics when he raised people from the dead, walked on water, and walked through walls after his resurrection. God violated man's laws of science when he parted the Red Sea, made water gush from desert rocks, sent food to the Children of Israel from the sky, and spoke from a burning bush. God violated man's understanding of the weather by flooding the earth and saving two of every animal in a boat.

As a student of the Bible and a follower of Christ, you must decide who you will believe: scientists or God. The resurrection may be a mystery to you now, but we will all experience it in the future. The saved will be resurrected to enjoy the presence of God for eternity, and the unsaved resurrected to spend eternity in the absence of God. Decide wisely today which option you wish to experience.

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