

10. Touching Jesus' wounds convinced Thomas.

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe." John 20:25 (ESV)

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" John 20:26–28 (ESV)

How does the resurrection make a practical difference?

1. It tells us which religion is the truth.
2. It tells us Jesus is the only way to know God.

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. John 14:6 (ESV)

3. It tells us we can have victory in the face of death.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, John 11:25 (ESV)

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How Can I Know Jesus Rose From The Dead?

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And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 1 Corinthians 15:14 (ESV)

And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. 1 Corinthians 15:17 (ESV)

"No one fact in the history of mankind... is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort" than the fact that "Christ died and rose from the dead." —Thomas Arnold, professor of modern history at Oxford.

1. Jesus' resurrection was prophetically anticipated in the Old Testament.

Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him; he has put him to grief; when his soul makes an offering for guilt, he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days; the will of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. Isaiah 53:10 (ESV)

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. Psalm 16:10 (ESV)

2. Jesus predicted his resurrection from the dead.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. Mark 8:31 (ESV)

3. Jesus died. He didn't simply pass out.

4. Jesus was buried in a tomb that was easy to find.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 1 Corinthians 15:3–4 (ESV)

5. Jesus was not just seen. He was touched.

As they were talking about these things, Jesus himself stood among them, and said to them, “Peace to you!” But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. And he said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? See my hands and my feet, that it is I myself. Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before them. Luke 24:36–43 (ESV)

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. 1 Corinthians 15:3–8 (ESV)

6. Jesus’ resurrection was recorded right after it occurred.

7. Jesus’ resurrection convinced his family that he was God.

For not even his brothers believed in him. John 7:5 (ESV)

8. Jesus’ resurrection was confirmed by his most bitter enemies, like Paul.

9. The empty grave clothes convinced the apostle John.

Then the other disciple (John), who had reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; John 20:8 (ESV)