

The Body of Jesus

The Cross of Jesus

Is it personal to you?

Is it for forgiveness of your sin?



The Resurrection of Jesus

Is it personal to you?
Is it your hope and victory?



The physically resurrected body of Jesus

- Spoke to His friends, family, followers

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- Fed them
 - Literally – prepared breakfast for them
 - Spiritually – taught them from Scripture

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 - Spiritually – taught them from Scripture
- Worshipped with them
- Prepared them for what was to come
 - Individually
 - Collectively

They celebrated His Presence with them

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 - Thomas
- But when they were together with Him, they were strong and focused
 - Still imperfect
 - Still in need of instruction and correction
 - But unity in numbers and purpose

They celebrated His Presence with them

“During the forty days after His crucifixion, He appeared to the apostles from time to time, and He proved to them in many ways that He was actually alive. And He talked to them about the Kingdom of God. Once when He was eating with them, He commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift He promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking Him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

They celebrated His Presence with them

“He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

They celebrated His Presence with them

“After saying this, He was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see Him. As they strained to see Him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them.

“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday He will return from heaven in the same way you saw Him go!” *Acts 1: 3-11*

A bunch of believers without a leader

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- They could have split up
- They could have split apart
- But instead, they believed what Jesus told them
 - Stay here
 - Stay together
 - Wait on the Father to send what you need

A bunch of believers waiting

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- They could have split up
- They could have split apart
- But instead, they believed what Jesus told them
 - Stay here
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 - Wait on the Father to send what you need

A bunch of believers anticipating

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- Jesus was still Lord and leader
- But they became the physical representation to those around them of Him
- They became the means of physically accomplishing what He wanted done
- Their living and loving and worshipping demonstrated that they knew Jesus and still followed Him
- Their walk matched His talk

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- We are believers sandwiched in between the joy of the Resurrection and the arrival of Power from the Holy Spirit

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- Can we also be that sold out?
- Can we also be that united?

What do we want to see happen here?

- Is our focus on us?
 - Survival

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- Is our focus on the world around us?
 - Lost

What do we want to see happen here?

- Is our focus on us?
 - Survival
- Is our focus on the world around us?
 - Lost
- Is our focus on following Jesus?
 - Seriously
 - Passionately
 - Devotedly

What do we want to see happen here?

- The Disciples' focus was on Jesus
 - Doing what He said to do
 - Believing what He said would happen
 - Loving Him with all they had

What do we want to see happen here?

- They needed each other to fulfill their desire

What do we want to see happen here?

- They needed each other to fulfill their desire
 - Safety

What do we want to see happen here?

- They needed each other to fulfill their desire
 - Safety
 - Encouragement

What do we want to see happen here?

- They needed each other to fulfill their desire
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 - Accountability

What do we want to see happen here?

- They needed each other to fulfill their desire
 - Safety
 - Encouragement
 - Accountability
 - Opportunity

Christians need to be part of the Body

- There is absolutely no way to fulfill what Jesus wants to do in your life and through your life without the Body of Christ being part of your life

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- Read everything after Acts 1
 - Body of Christ in motion through Believers in Christ following His Words and examples
 - The collective Body is involved in it all

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- You can love Jesus and not follow Him

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- You can love Jesus and not follow Him
- You can want to be like Jesus and not follow Him

Christians need to be part of the Body

- You can love Jesus and not follow Him
- You can want to be like Jesus and not follow Him
- But the way you follow Him is to be part of the Body of Christ

Christians need to be part of the Body

“Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father, who is over all and in all and living through all.” *Ephesians 4: 3-6*

Christians need to be part of the Body

“ All of you together are Christ’s body, and each of you is a part of it.” *1 Corinthians 12:27*

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“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.” *Hebrews 10: 24-25*

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 - For provision of Followers of Jesus

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 - For correction of Followers of Jesus
 - For teaching of Followers of Jesus
 - For healing of Followers of Jesus
 - For demonstrating to the world that you do follow Jesus
 - The one Scriptural promise that leads to testimony that we follow Jesus