

We Believe...the third day he rose from the dead according to the scriptures

Scriptures:-1 Cor. 15; John 16:7-11; 1Pet.1:3.

1. Nothing like the resurrection can be found in any other literature.
2. The marvelous affront to the culture that the first appearance should be to Mary.
3. No serious attack on the truth of the physical resurrection until the generation of witnesses was long gone.
4. Most modern deconstructions fail dramatically to the commonsense view that no sane person would die for what he knows to be untrue. Add to this the very strange 3 day interval and the obvious lack of any presentation of the body by those who did not love Jesus. All these arguments have been laid out innumerable times.
5. Conclusion: when the improbable confronts the illogical choose the improbable (with apologies to CS Lewis)
6. Nevertheless it often seems to me that modern evangelicals are somewhat ambivalent about the physical resurrection, one might almost say embarrassed by it.
7. An aside on how we think with the “post-endarkenment” categories that surround us.
8. Jn 16. Sin maps to the cross, righteousness to the resurrection and judgement to the second coming. How does this work?
9. When God raised Jesus he pointed to the renewal of all things. Sin was dealt with and we who believe could start a new life.
10. The world did change. See especially David Hart – Christ and Nothing (First Things Oct 2003)
11. O’Donovan has argued that for there to be a truly evangelical ethics the resurrection is necessary. I am convinced and will try to show you why.
12. Finally it is a radically new “more” human body that we will get in a renewed earth and with the joy of sinlessness. Something to shout about.