

## CatClub: Question 50



Last week we tackled the subject of where Christ is now and his current and future work on our behalf. This week we delve further into this subject.

1. Q50 asks: What does Christ's resurrection mean for us? Answer: **Christ triumphed over sin and death by being physically resurrected, so that all who trust in him are raised to new life in this world and to everlasting life in the world to come. Just as we will one day be resurrected, so this world will one day be restored. But those who do not trust in Christ will be raised to everlasting death.**

2. Investigation - please look up:

1. (In the New Testament) Acts chapter 2, verses 22-24. Verse 24 in particular tells us that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead **because it wasn't possible for death to claim him permanently**.

2. (In the New Testament) John chapter 3, verses 1-8. Here Jesus is approached at night by Nicodemus, one of the Jewish religious leaders (a 'Pharisee'). Jesus tells him that, **in order to enter God's kingdom (i.e. become a true believer), he must be 'born again'** - in other words he must leave his old self behind and become a new person, made new by the Holy Spirit. Jesus' promise is that all who trust in him start a new (spiritual) life in the here and now.

3. (In the New Testament) 1 Thessalonians chapter 4, verses 13-18. Here Paul tells the church in Thessalonica that, **when Jesus returns in the future, the dead will be resurrected and will be brought to be with Jesus. Those alive at the time will be miraculously and gloriously changed without passing through death so that they too will have perfect resurrection bodies**.

4. (In the New Testament) Romans chapter 8, verses 19-22. **Not only will believers, whether dead or alive, be gloriously changed when Jesus returns, so too will the whole creation be made new**.

5. (In the New Testament) John chapter 3, verses 18-19. **Sadly, those who don't trust in Jesus are condemned already in this life - and will be judged and sent to hell when Jesus returns if they haven't put their faith in him**. This why we should want everyone to hear the good news about salvation in Jesus!

Next week's question: Of what advantage is Christ's ascension?

This week's songs: 'See what a morning'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xM-fpXayUg>

'How long, O Lord?'

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9mFRMcolr6s>

**Acts 2: 22-24.** <sup>22</sup> Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— <sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

('loosing the pangs of death' = releasing Jesus from the agony of death)

**John 3:1-8.** <sup>3</sup> Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. <sup>2</sup> This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup> That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup> Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** <sup>13</sup> But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup> For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

('asleep' here means 'dead').

**Romans 8:19-22** <sup>19</sup> For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. <sup>20</sup> For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope <sup>21</sup> that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. <sup>22</sup> For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

**John chapter 3, verses 18-19** <sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup> And this is the judgement: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil.