

Why Can We Trust the Words of Jesus?

By Doug Hamilton

Jesus testifies that there will be two resurrections. (John 5:25-29)

John 5:25-29 “Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. ²⁶ “For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself; ²⁷ and He gave Him authority to execute judgment, because He is the Son of Man. ²⁸ “Do not marvel at this; for an hour is coming, in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice, ²⁹ and will come forth; those who did the good deeds to a resurrection of life, those who committed the evil deeds to a resurrection of judgment.

- In this passage Jesus discusses the resurrection from the dead which all who are in the grave will experience in the future, including both saved and the lost. Everybody whom dies is going to face a resurrection whether they want to recognize it or not.
 - Matthew 25:46 “These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”
 - Acts 24:15 “...that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.”
- Jesus claimed that He was the One that possessed the power over life and judgment in this event. It was to Him this responsibility is carried out. We know from other verses that Jesus is going to marvelously resurrect the Christians from the grave and provide new bodies with a living hope of eternal life.
 - 1 Corinthians 15:51–52 Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, ⁵² in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.
 - 1 Thessalonians 4:16–17 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.
 - Philippians 3:20–21 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; ²¹ who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

Jesus does not say this as a mere human, for He is fully credentialed.

John 5:30–32 “I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³¹ “If I *alone* testify about Myself, My testimony is not true. ³² “There is another who testifies of Me, and I know that the testimony which He gives about Me is true.

This was a bold claim for Jesus to make to the Jewish people whom were looking forward to the coming Messiah. In this He raises an interesting point: Should we just accept this as evidence from His lips or is it okay to obtain greater testimony from other sources? Jesus will now back up

Why Can We Trust the Words of Jesus?

By Doug Hamilton

His word that He has this authority over the souls of mankind. He wants you to know what He said is true and not just a claim.

1. John the baptist bore witness of Jesus. (John 5:33-35)

John 5:33-35 “You have sent to John, and he has testified to the truth.³⁴ “But the testimony which I receive is not from man, but I say these things so that you may be saved.³⁵ “He was the lamp that was burning and was shining and you were willing to rejoice for while in his light.

- a. John the baptist was sent into the world to be a witness to the Christ.
 - i. John 1:6-8 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.⁷ He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.⁸ He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light.
- b. John the baptist had the respect of the people, the religious leaders, the civil leaders and even Jesus.
 - i. Luke 3:10-13 said crowds of tax gatherers and soldiers were coming to him for direction in their lives.
 - ii. Matthew 3:7 said that many Pharisees were coming to John to be baptized.
 - iii. Mark 6:20 states that even King Herod feared him as a righteous and holy man of God.
 - iv. Jesus said in Luke 7:28 that John the baptist was the greatest among those born of women.
 - v. John the baptist was considered a reliable witness among his contemporaries concerning Jesus. He most definitely referred to it in *John 3:30* “*He must increase, but I must decrease.*”
- c. John the baptist recognized the worthiness of Jesus.
 - i. John 1:26 John answered them saying, “I baptize in water, but among you stands One whom you do not know.²⁷ “It is He who comes after me, the thong of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie.”
- d. John the baptist personally recognized Jesus as the Lamb of God.
 - i. John 1:29-30 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!³⁰ “This is He on behalf of whom I said, ‘After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’

2. His works bore witness of Jesus. (John 5:36)

John 5:36 “But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

- a. He carried out miracles of healing on the hurting.
 - i. He healed a crippled man in Luke 5.
 - ii. He healed a deaf man in

Why Can We Trust the Words of Jesus?

By Doug Hamilton

- iii. He heals a leper in Matthew 8.
- iv. He healed a blind man in Mark 10.
- v. He healed a sick woman in Matthew 4 and 9.
- vi. He cured a centurion's son in Luke 7.
- b. He carried out miracles of freedom on the possessed.
 - i. Luke 4:33–35 In the synagogue there was a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice,³⁴ “Let us alone! What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!”³⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “**Be quiet and come out of him!**” And when the demon had thrown him down in the midst of *the people*, he came out of him without doing him any harm.
 - ii. There are many accounts of Jesus freeing men and women from the phenomena of demon possession. This was something the Jewish leaders and even the apostles had some major issues in carrying out, but not Jesus.
- c. He carried out miracles of resurrection on the dead.
 - i. He raised the son of widow from Nain in Luke 7.
 - ii. He raised the daughter of a man named Jairus in Mark 5.
 - iii. He raised a man from Bethany named Lazarus in Luke 11.
 - 1. John 11:43–45 When He had said these things, He cried out with a loud voice, “**Lazarus, come forth.**”⁴⁴ The man who had died came forth, bound hand and foot with wrappings, and his face was wrapped around with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “**Unbind him, and let him go.**”⁴⁵ Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him.
- d. He carried out these miracles so that we would believe that He spoke the words of the Father.
 - i. John 10:37–38 “If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;³⁸ but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father.”
 - ii. John 14:11 “Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves.”

The historical record points out that He turned water into wine, walked on water, multiplied fish and bread, predicted events yet to come, read the intentions of men from their minds and many other miracles. He did so many miracles that the Apostle John proclaimed in the last verse of his gospel account *John 21:25* *And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.* The miracles certainly should be entered in as a witness to the authority of Jesus.

Why Can We Trust the Words of Jesus?

By Doug Hamilton

3. The Father bore witness of Jesus. (John 5:37-38)

John 5:37-38 “And the Father who sent Me, He has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time nor seen His form. ³⁸ “You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent.

- a. The Father witnessed that Jesus was His Son.
 - i. Matthew 3:16–17 After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove *and* lighting on Him, ¹⁷ and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.”
- b. The Father witnessed that Jesus was special.
 - i. Luke 9:33–35 And as these were leaving Him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles: one for You, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not realizing what he was saying. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud formed and *began* to overshadow them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My Son, *My Chosen One*; listen to Him!”
- c. The Father witnessed that Jesus was glorified.
 - i. John 12:27–28 “Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. ²⁸ “Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came out of heaven: “I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.”

4. The Scriptures bore witness of Jesus. (John 5:39-40)

John 5:39-40 “You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; ⁴⁰ and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

- a. The Prophets spoke of Jesus in great detail.
 - i. Romans 15:4 For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.
 - ii. Hebrews 1:1 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
 - iii. There are over 300 direct prophecies in the Old Testament that talked about the coming Messiah. Here are some of them.
 - 1. He was the Crusher of the Serpent in Genesis 3.
 - 2. He was the “Lord will Provide” of Genesis 22.
 - 3. He was *azazel*, the Scapegoat of Leviticus 16.
 - 4. He was the Prophet of Deuteronomy 18.
 - 5. He was Immanuel of Isaiah 7.
 - 6. He was the Prince of Peace of Isaiah 9.
 - 7. He was the Anointed of Isaiah 11.

Why Can We Trust the Words of Jesus?

By Doug Hamilton

8. He was the Tortured of Isaiah 50.
 9. He was the Silent Lamb of Isaiah 53.
 10. He was the Pierced of Psalm 22 and Zechariah 12.
 11. He was the Betrayed of Psalm 41.
 12. He was the Speaker of Parables in Ps 78.
 13. He was Melchizedek the Priest of God Most High of Psalm 110.
 14. He was the Stone Cut Out of the Mountain from Daniel 2.
 15. He was the One Shepherd of Ezekiel 37.
 16. He was the Forsaken of Zechariah 13.
- b. The copies and shadows spoke in great detail about Jesus.
- i. Hebrews 8:5 "...who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned *by God* when he was about to erect the tabernacle; for, "SEE," He says, "THAT YOU MAKE all things ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN WHICH WAS SHOWN YOU ON THE MOUNTAIN."
 - ii. The Sacrificial System from the Old Testament pointed to what Jesus is to the Christian. He is the One sacrifice that allows the Christian to be complete in the eyes of God.
 - iii. There are thousands of copies and shadows from the Old Testament that points to the Christ and His Kingdom.
 1. He is the Christian's Passover Sacrifice that shelters us from the judgment of the world.
 2. He is the Christian's Trespass Offering that makes it possible to be restored to our earthly relationships.
 3. He is the Sin Offering that takes away the sins of the world.
 4. He was the Burnt Offering of complete devotion to God.
 5. He is the Grain Offering that recognizes out honor to God.
 6. He is the Fellowship Offering that confirms we are among the people of God.
 7. He is the Red Bird Offering that confirms our healing.
 8. He is the Red Heifer Offering that cleanses our death-defiled ways.
 9. He is the Day of Atonement sacrifice that covers our sins of ignorance.
 10. He was the Continual Burnt Offering of daily living unto God.

Conclusion:

Jesus made the claim that He has your destiny in His hands concerning your resurrection. It is great if you took Him at His, but He was more than willing to provide you with more evidence. John the baptist witnessed of Him, His Miracles witnessed of Him, the Father witnessed of Him and the Old Testament witnessed the same. There are four good reasons why you can trust Jesus concerning the resurrection.