

1. **Introduction:** After Jesus' resurrection, He stayed on earth for 40 days and appeared to many people. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, 1 Corinthians, and Revelation all record one or more appearances.
 - After Jesus was resurrected on Sunday morning, He was the same Jesus who died on the cross and was placed in the tomb on Friday before sundown, but His resurrection body was different in some respects.
 - Think about this: (1.) Jesus entered closed rooms without opening a door.
2. **John 20:19-20:** *On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, ³ Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.*
 - (2.) Jesus was able to disappear. For example, He disappeared from sight of two people whom He had walked with on the road to Emmaus.
3. **Luke 24:30-31:** *When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight.*
 - (3.) He ascended into Heaven!
4. **Acts 1:9-12:** *And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. ¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, ¹¹ and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."*
 - After Jesus' resurrection, He appeared to many people as seen in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, 1 Corinthians, and Revelation.
5. **Acts 1:3:** *He presented himself alive to them [the disciples] after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.*
 - **Resurrection Day:** Early on Sunday morning, an angel came and rolled back the stone that closed Joseph of Arimathea's tomb in which Jesus had been buried.
 - The religious rulers, for fear that someone might steal Jesus' body and then claim that He was resurrected, had put a seal on the stone and set guards to watch over the tomb.
 - The angel and a localized earthquake that occurred frightened the guards and caused them to fall to the ground as if dead (Mt 28:2-4).
 - Mary Magdalene, Mary (the mother of James), and Salome arrived with spices to anoint Jesus' body, and found the stone rolled away. (Mt 28:1; Mk 16:1-4; Lk 24:1-3; Jn 20:1)
 - The women entered the tomb, saw the angel (Luke says 2 angels), and heard the angel say, Jesus has risen, go tell His disciples and Peter that He will meet them in Galilee as He said (Mt. 28:5-7; Mk 16:5-7, Lk 24: 4-6)

- The women ran to tell Peter and John that Jesus' body was gone. Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them gave the men the news (Lk 24:10).
 - Hearing the news, Peter and John ran to see for themselves. John arrived at the tomb first but waited for Peter to enter the tomb. Together, they saw that Jesus' body was missing. They went home confused and concerned with Peter ***“marveling at what had happened.”*** (Lk 24:2; Jn 20:3-10)
6. Meanwhile, Mary Magdalene was outside the tomb, weeping alone. She stooped, looked into the tomb and saw the two angels. They asked why she was weeping.
- She answered, ***“They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.”*** Perhaps she glanced over her shoulder or in some other way became aware of someone she thought was a gardener.
 - The person asked her ***“Who are you seeking?”*** She asked where was Jesus' body?
 - Jesus responded with “Mary,” and she recognized Him. He told her to not cling to Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father. Mary went to the disciples and told them she had seen the Lord alive. (Jn 20:11-15)
7. (2.) After Mary Magdalene ran ahead of the others, Jesus appeared to the remaining women. They knew Him right away. (Mt 28:9-10)
8. (3.) Jesus appeared to Peter. No details are given of this appearance. When Cleopas and his companion came back to Jerusalem, the disciples gave them the news that Jesus had appeared to Simon. (Lk 24:34)
9. (4.) Jesus appeared to Cleopas and a companion walking as they returned to Emmaus from Jerusalem. Jesus appeared and joined their conversation.
- They were kept from recognizing Jesus. He opened their understanding and explained the OT scriptures concerning Himself.
 - When they sat down to eat, they recognized Jesus as soon as He took bread and asked God's blessing on it. Jesus disappeared.
 - They rushed back to Jerusalem with their news. (Lk 24:13-32) arriving late on Sunday night (or by Jewish reckoning it was after sundown –so it was Monday night).
 - They joined the eleven and some others. Cleopas told them how they talked with Jesus. He was not believed. (Lk 24:33-35)
10. (5.) After hearing the report from Cleopas, Jesus later appeared in the room and said, “Peace to you!” (Lk 24:36; Jn 20:19)
- They thought Jesus was a ghost and were afraid. He told them to touch and handle Him and know that He was flesh and blood and not a ghost.
 - To reassure them that He was truly alive, He showed them His hands pierced by nails and His spear-pierced side and ate some food. (Jn 20:20.)
 - As He had with Cleopas, Jesus opened their minds so that they would understand as He explained the Scriptures concerning Him.

- Jesus told them they should remain in Jerusalem until they received the promise of the Father and were clothed with power from on high. Thomas was not with them that night.
 - When Thomas joined them, he said he would not believe Jesus was alive unless he could put his fingers into Jesus' nail-pierced hands and His spear-pierced side. (Jn 20:24-25)
11. (6.) Eight days later Jesus appeared to the disciples with Thomas present. ***“Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”²⁷ 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!”²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”*** (Jn 20:24-29)
12. (7.) Later, Jesus appeared to seven of the disciples at the Lake of Galilee (Sea of Tiberias) where Peter and others were fishing.
- It was a fascinating experience. Jesus has them cast their net at a particular place and they get a huge net of fish. Jesus feeds them a fish breakfast.
 - Jesus asked Peter 3 times if he loved Him. He used Peter's responses to forgive Peter for his sins on the night Jesus was betrayed.
 - Each time, after Peter said that he loved Jesus, Jesus instructed Peter to “feed my sheep.” Jesus spoke of other things as well. (Jn. 21:4-23)
13. (8.) Jesus met the disciples on a mountain in Galilee (Mt 28:16-20). This appearance was pre-arranged as mentioned by the angels on resurrection day (Mt 28:10). Jesus also told them about this meeting at the Passover meal (Mt 26:32).
14. (9.) Later, Jesus appeared before a crowd of more than 500. (1 Cor 15:6)
- Paul said at the time he wrote (about 53-54 AD) that many of those who saw Jesus that day were still alive and available to confirm they had seen and heard the resurrected Jesus.
15. (10.) Jesus appeared to His half-brother, James, and then to all the apostles (1 Cor 15:7). No more details available.
16. (11.) In Galilee, Jesus met with the 11 disciples, speaking to them about their task of spreading the gospel, discussing what we know as the Great Commission. (Mt 28:16-20; Mk 16:15-18).
17. For 40 days, Jesus showed Himself alive by “many infallible proofs.” (Acts 1:3)
18. (12.) On the 40th day after His resurrection, Jesus led His 11 disciples and others out to the Mount of Olives. He lifted His hands and blessed them. (Lk 24:50-51)
- ***“As they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.¹⁰ And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,¹¹ and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”*** (Acts 1:9b-11)
 - The disciples left the Mount of Olivet and returned to Jerusalem with great joy to await the giving of the Promise of the Father.

- The extent and diversity of Jesus' after resurrection appearances convinced His disciples that, beyond any doubt, Jesus had truly risen from the dead and would be with them as they carried out His instructions.
 - For 40 days Jesus taught and ministered to His disciples and others in what must have been an intensely powerful experience, preparing them for His Ascension into heaven.
 - Scripture mentions additional appearances by the glorified Jesus after His ascension, both in direct appearances and in visions.
19. (13.) A direct visit to Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus. (Acts 9:3-9)
- Jesus seems to have appeared to Paul 3 different times. On the road to Damascus, Saul experienced Jesus' presence as an extremely bright light that temporarily blinded Saul and heard His voice (Acts 9:1-9).
 - Later, Paul saw Jesus in a vision (Acts 18:9-10).
 - The third time was the night before Paul was taken to Rome when Jesus stood by him and encouraged him (Acts 23:11).
20. (14.) To the Apostle John on the island of Patmos.
- ***Revelation 1:9: I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.***
 - John describes a vision in which the risen, glorified Jesus appears to him.
 - John was given instructions to write letters to the 7 churches under John's leadership – Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea, all in the Roman province of Asia.
21. ***Revelation 1:10-20: I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet ¹¹ saying, "Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." ¹² Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵ his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸ and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. ¹⁹ Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. ²⁰ As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.***
- The risen, glorified Jesus is concerned with the faithfulness or its lack among those who claim Him as Lord.