

THE BIBLE VIEW

In This Issue:

[Not Just A Man](#)

[He's Alive!](#)

["I And My Father Are One."](#)

["Jesus, the Door"](#)

[History's Most Important Event](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

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Not Just A Man

Bill Brinkworth

Jesus was not just a man. He is the only begotten Son of God (John 3:16). His fulfillment of hundreds of prophecies proves it. His life and his supernatural miracles affirm it. Even the supernatural occurrences after His death verify it. At least eleven of them are mentioned in Matthew. Many of them are found in Matthew 27 and 28.

When Jesus died:

- The veil in the temple was ripped in half (Mat. 27:51).
- Graves of saints were opened (Mat. 27:52).
- Many dead saints awoke and walked the earth (Mat. 27:52).
- Two earthquakes occurred (Mat. 27:54, 28:2).
- An angel came to earth and rolled the stone away from Christ's tomb (Mat. 28:2).
- The keepers of the tomb "became as dead men" (Mat. 28:4).
- Jesus arose from the dead! He is alive (Mat. 28:6)!
- Jesus appeared and spoke to many (Mat. 28:9, 18).

All these miracles trumpeted the end of the long-awaited Messiah's first ministry on this earth; but, stay tuned! All the supernatural events are not over. I have read the Book (Revelation, Ezekiel, Isaiah...). There is more to come, and Jesus is coming again! Are you ready?

"He is not here: for he is risen...." *Matthew 28:6*

He's Alive!

Bill Brinkworth

One of the many things that prove that Jesus was not an ordinary man is that His life did not end with His crucifixion. His life continued, and Luke 24 tells some of what happened after His "death." The chapter reveals:

- Jesus rose from the dead and was victorious over death!
- Angels had announced Jesus' birth and also announced that He had risen (Luke 24:5-6) from the dead.
- He came back after His crucifixion and was seen by many.
- Jesus taught others when He came back.
- Jesus had a different body, but He still remembered many things, talked, walked, and was able to discern others' feelings.
- He still knew scripture (Luke 24:27).

- He still prayed and thanked God (Luke 24:30).
- He must have appeared differently. He had talked and spent time with several disciples, but they did not recognize who He was until their eyes were opened, and they were given an understanding that it was Christ they had been talking with (Luke 24:31).
- He just appeared among people. In several other places in the Bible, Jesus appeared in the midst of people without going through doors (Luke 24:36).
- Jesus still had the marks of His crucifixion (Luke 24:39).
- He was seen ascending back to Heaven (Luke 24:51).

Unfortunately, there are many false religions, and their originators have claimed many things. None, however, can claim to have done what God's only Son had done. Jesus arose from the grave! He has risen!

“Jesus used a borrowed tomb because He did not need it for long.”

— *Author Unknown*

“I And My Father Are One.”

Bill Brinkworth

One of the most disputed and difficult teachings in the Bible is that Jesus taught that He and the Father are one. Even when Jesus said, “I and my Father are one.” (John 10:30) many of the Jews were so angry they picked up stones to kill Him. It has angered and confused many for a long time, yet it is a principle taught in the Bible.

In John 14, Jesus said several things about His being God. They include:

- Jesus is the Father: “If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him.” (John 14:7)
“... he that hath seen me hath seen the Father ...” (John 14:9)
- God is in Jesus: “... the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me ...” (John 14:10)
- Jesus is also in God: “Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me...” (John 14:11)

It is a difficult teaching to understand that Jesus and the Father are one. Other scriptures indicate that the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are also all one. Although it is something that may be beyond the grasp of normal understanding, it is clearly taught in the Bible. We are to believe all that is in the Bible, even if it is not crystal clear to us at the time.

“If God said it, I believe it; that settles it!” — *Author Unknown*

“Jesus, the Door”

Author Unknown

Door of hope for sinners poor,
Here the hopeless may draw nigh;
Jesus bids them stay no more,
And receives them graciously.

Door of mercy open wide,
He that will, may enter here;
Find in Jesus' pierced side
Shelter from each rising fear.

Door of pardon for the vile,
Here the vilest enter in,
Find the fruit of Jesus' toil
Full atonement for their sin.

Door of peace, yea, peace with God,
Sinners may adore and bless;
Peace, the fruit of Jesus' blood;
Peace, the fruit of righteousness.

Door of Heaven, there saints shall raise
Loud hosannas swelling high,
And in gratitude and praise
Spend a long eternity.

“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” *John 10:9*

History's Most Important Event

Bill Brinkworth

Many of the details of the most important event in human history are outlined in Matthew 27. It is the event that had to happen to give all the opportunity to see and live with God forever. This event was the death of God's only begotten Son, Jesus.

Jesus' death had to happen. In God's plan, it was the only way anyone's sins could be paid for. Our "good" works, religious ceremonies, and obeying tradition cannot pay for one sin we have done, let alone the countless number we have committed. The only payment acceptable to God for our sins was the sacrificial death of His Son. Jesus' death on the cross was not for anything He had done, but for all mankind's iniquities.

Although Jesus was God's son, the pain and suffering He encountered were not lessened. Here is a list of some of what Jesus suffered when He went to the cross for our sins:

- He was bound (Mat. 27:2).
- He was betrayed (Mat. 27:3).
- He was falsely accused (Mat. 27:12).
- He was unjustly convicted. He was so hated that a man guilty of murder and robbery was released so that Jesus would die in that man's stead (Mat. 27:26).
- He was whipped (Mat. 27:26).
- He was stripped of His clothing and humiliated (Mat. 27:28).
- He was spat upon (Mat. 27:30).
- He was beaten (Mat. 27:30).

- He was repeatedly mocked and ridiculed (Mat. 27:31, 37, 40, 41...).
- He was nailed to a cross and allowed to hang there.
- His death only meant the value of His clothing to some (Mat. 27:35).
- He and his disciples were not trusted (Mat. 27:42).

Jesus did all this and more to pay for my sins and yours! All the words I know are insufficient to tell Jesus how thankful I am for what He has done for us. I certainly am not worthy. He is worthy of only good things, yet He suffered all this for us!

Has His death on the cross been in vain for you? If you have not made Him your personal Saviour and asked Him to save you from an eternity in Hell, admit your sinnership, and ask Him to be your payment for sin today.

“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed.” Romans 10:9-11