

Since we have examined the New Testament accounts of the resurrection of Jesus, let us now see how these same accounts answer certain questions which have been raised in connection with such a study. First, let us ask what was the character of the appearances of Jesus. According to the New Testament the appearances are bodily. On one occasion Jesus asks the disciples to touch Him in order that they might see that He was actually a person having flesh and bones. He says, "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye behold Me having." (Luke 24:39) Jesus also partook of food in the presence of the disciples. "And they (the disciples) gave Him a piece of broiled fish. And He took it, and ate before them." (Luke 24:42,43) When Jesus appeared to His disciples and friends, He held extended conversations with them. It is also interesting to note that the movements of the risen Jesus are unrestricted by physical obstacles. For example, He is able to appear through closed doors. "And when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst." (John 20:19) Since Jesus was not a spirit but One whose manifestations were bodily, we may ask whether the glorified body was bloodless. In I Corinthians 15:50 Paul says, "Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." (verse 50) At this point the comment of Dr. William Milligan is worth noting when he says, "The conclusion often drawn from the words ("flesh and bones"), when compared with I Cor. xv. 50, that the Lord's resurrection-body was bloodless, seems somewhat precarious, unless we are careful to explain that our only meaning is that the blood was not in the same condition as that in which it had previously been. There seems no reason for saying that the blood might not be glorified in the same way as the more solid portions of the earthly body." cf.