



Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus

I. Jesus placed in the tomb before the Sabbath

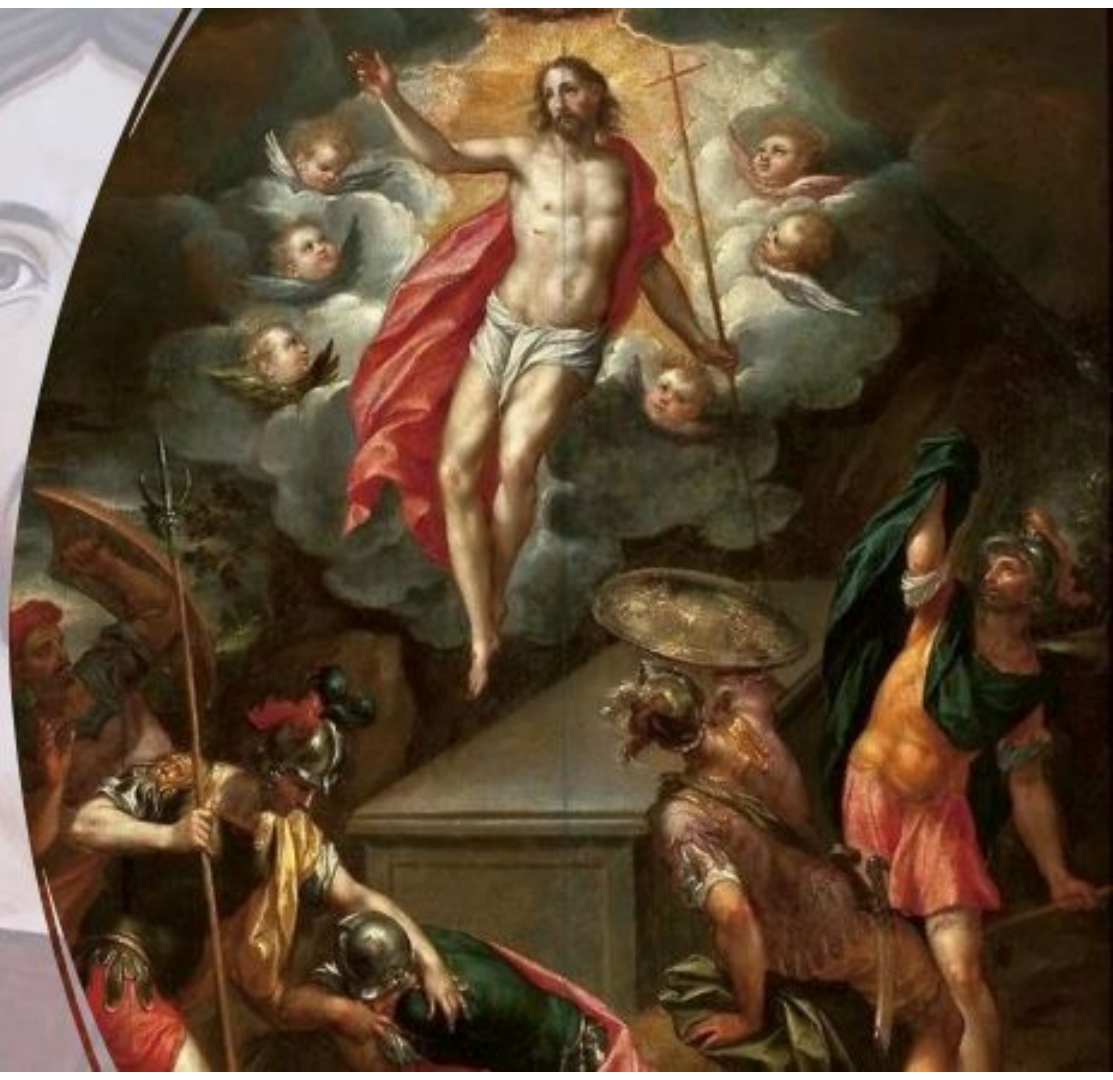
II. On the third day, Jesus rises from the dead

A. The Resurrection, Jesus' victory over death, foundation and vindication of Christianity

A. Jesus is God, is not a slave to death

a. Jesus' death is redemptive, death is not the end; Jesus' death was not in vain

III. After appearing to the Disciples on several occasions, Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father





The Early Church

I. Pentecost – The Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles

A. The Apostles begin to proclaim the Gospel

B. The birth of the Church

C. Conversions follow

1. Conversion - a turning of soul

2. Persecution of the Church by Jewish and Roman authorities



Conversion of Saul

I. Saul is given authority to hunt down and persecute Christians

A. Saul oversees the stoning of Stephen

II. Saul is struck from his horse on the road to Damascus

A. Saul encounters Christ

1. Saul, why are you persecuting me?

III. Saul converts to Christianity and becomes the Apostle Paul

A. Paul spreads the Gospel to the Gentiles

1. Paul becomes apostle to the Gentiles

2. Paul writes epistles (letters) that come to be part of the Bible, New Testament





CHRISTIANS ASSEMBLED FOR WORSHIP IN THE CATACOMBS OF EGYPT.

The Life and Practices of the Early Church

I. Early converts baptized, continue in the Apostles' doctrine, and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and prayers

A. All that believed were together and had all things in common

B. The Eucharist – John 6 (I am the Bread of Life), 1 Corinthians 1 (For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup...), (Matthew, Mark, Luke – the Last Supper, do this in remembrance of me)

II. The Papacy

A. Matthew 16 (Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church)

1. Peter as the first pope, bishop of Rome

2. Peter's faith as the rock (Jan Huss, Prior to Reformation)

A. Matthew 16 (The keys of the kingdom) and Isaiah 22: 20-23

1. Peter as the new Eliakim, the master of the palace of Christ's earthly kingdom

2. Peter as the chief interpreter of God's Law (the new chief priest)

3. Peter as the chief forgiver of sins

Council of Jerusalem (50 A.D.)

I. Acts of the Apostles, 15

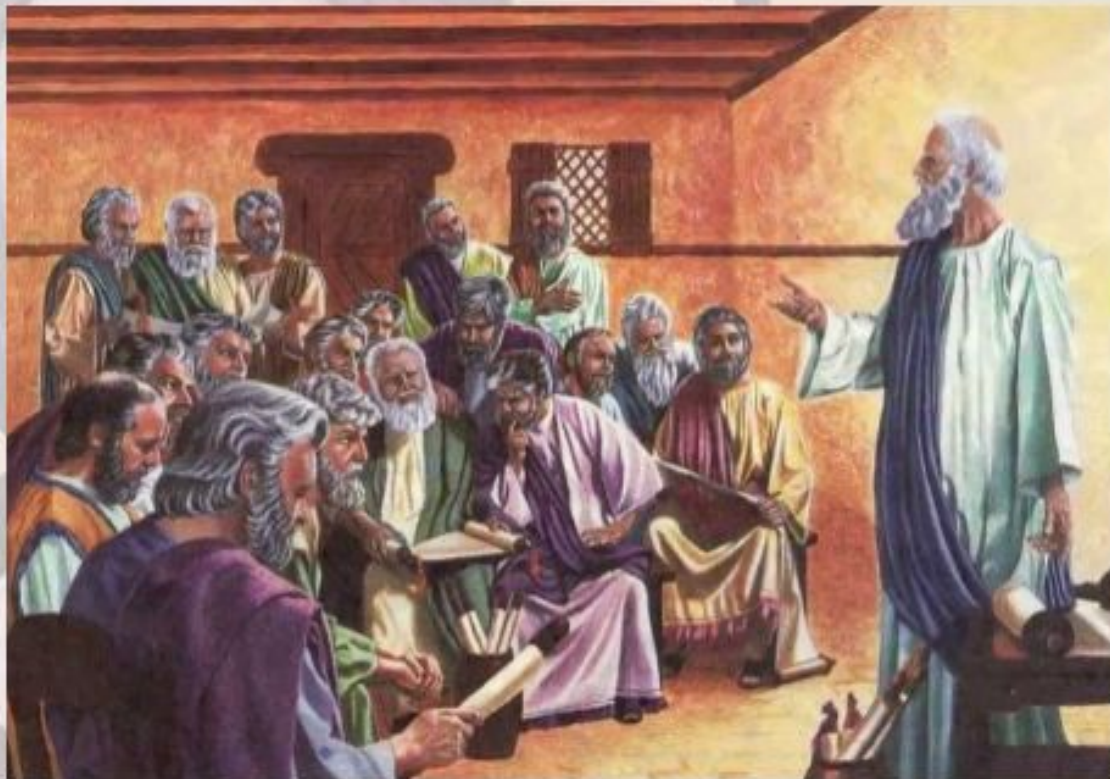
A. Is it necessary for the Gentiles to follow the Mosaic Law, i.e. to be circumcised?

B. What parts of the Jewish law (Ten Commandments, ceremonial precepts,) should Christians obey?

1. Apostles and the Ancients assemble to consider the question

a. Peter and James speak

b. The Council of Jerusalem determines that it is sufficient to abstain from sacrifices to idols, from blood, from things strangled, and fornication



John's Apocalypse or Revelation

- I. John is the only Apostle to escape martyrdom
- II. John is exiled to the island of Patmos
 - A. John is given a vision, a revelation, of the end times (eschatology)
 - 1. Revelation is rich in symbolism
 - a. The Lamb – Christ
 - b. The Dragon – Lucifer, Satan
 - A war between Michael and Lucifer, angels and demons
 - c. The Beast – the Anti-Christ
 - The mark of the beast - 666





Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

04/29

1. Jesus' Resurrection
 - a. Jesus is placed in the tomb before the Sabbath
 - b. On the 3rd day he rose from the dead
 - c. Jesus' Resurrection/Victory over death is foundation of Christianity
 - i. Jesus is God, not a slave to death
 1. His death is redemptive/not the end
 - a. Did not die in vain
 - d. After appearing to his disciples several times, Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father

Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

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1. ...
2. Early Church
 - a. Pentecost -> Holy Spirit descends upon the Apostles
 - i. Apostles begin to proclaim the Gospel
 - ii. Birth of the Church
 - b. Conversions follow
 - i. Conversion = turning of soul
 - c. Persecution of the Church by both Jews and Roman authorities begins
3. Saul -> Paul

Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

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- 3. Saul -> Paul
 - a. Saul is Roman who has authority to hunt/persecute Christians
 - i. Saul oversees stoning of Stephen
 - b. Damasus
 - i. On the way to Damascus Saul is struck off his horse
 - 1. Encounter with Christ, Christ asks why is he prosecuting Him?
 - 2. Saul converts to Christianity and becomes the Apostle Paul
 - a. Apostle to the Gentiles
 - b. Writes the epistles (letters) that become part of the

Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

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4. Early Church

- a. Converts are baptized and follow the Apostles doctrine
- b. Gather to pray/break bread
 - i. Eucharist-John 6, 1 Corinthians 1, Last Supper Discourse
 - 1. Eat this bread/drink this cup... do this in remembrance of me
- c. Papacy
 - i. Matthew 16 (Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church)
 - 1. Peter is 1st pope/bishop of Rome
 - a. Peter -> Petra -> Rock
 - 2. Matthew 16 (The keys of the kingdom) and Isaiah 22:20-23
 - 3. Peter is the master of the palace of Christ's early kingdom

Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

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5. Council of Jerusalem (50 A.D).
 - a. Acts of the Apostles, 15
 - b. Is it necessary for Gentiles to follow Mosaic Law/have to be circumcised?
 - c. Apostles come to Peter
 - i. What parts of the Jewish Law should Christians obey?
 - d. Council determines that it is enough for the non-circumcised to abstain from sacrificing to idols, from blood, things strangled and fornication.

Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension

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6. John's Apocalypse
 - a. Only apostle not martyred
 - b. Exiled to Island of Patmos
 - c. Given a vision of end times (eschatology)
 - d. Book of Revelation is full of symbolism
 - i. Lamb = Christ, Dragon = Lucifer/Satan
 - ii. War between Michael and Lucifer, angels and demons
 1. The Beast/AntiChrist is marked by 666