

I. Know the Plan - 2 Peter 3:16-18: Jesus

Third, the word “Jesus” is *Iesous*, the Greek form of the Hebrew, Joshua.

This is the only proper noun among the four mentioned here.

The Old Testament name, *Joshua*, means, “*Jehovah is salvation.*” The same is true for the New Testament equivalent, *Jesus*, or *Iesous*.

Notice that the proper name is a compound noun made up of the first two titles we have studied: Adonai is substituted by the Jews for *Jehovah*, or *Yahweh*, while *Yasha* is the Hebrew word for *Savior*. Combine the two together and you get *Joshua*, or “*Jehovah is salvation.*”

As we have just noted, Jesus is the name which God commanded Joseph give to the Son about to be born to Mary. Matthew 1:21

Jesus is the name which signifies the true humanity of our Lord. The Old Testament prophesied that God would lower Himself to the form of humanity in order to become a sacrifice for all mankind.

The Scripture indicates that He would be born of a woman—Genesis 3:15, He would be from the Tribe of Judah—Genesis 49:10, specifically from the dynasty of David—2 Samuel 7:12, 2 Samuel 7:13, 2 Samuel 7:16, born of a virgin—Isaiah 7:14, in the city of Bethlehem—Micah 5:2, and filled with the Holy Spirit from physical birth—Isaiah 11:2.

It is in His humanity that He was required by the salvation plan of God to face the temptations encountered by all mankind but to do so without sin.

Hebrews 4:15 - For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.

He was required in His humanity to go to the cross and receive in His own body the imputation of the sins of the entire human race.

1 Peter 2:24 - He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness, for by His wounds you were healed.

Once His sacrificial work on the cross was finished, He was free to terminate His mission as Savior and emphasize His role of Messiah.

His transfer from physical body to resurrection body occurred in three stages and over a period of three days.

There occurred at the cross a trichotomous separation of our Lord's soul, human spirit, and body. Luke describes these phenomena in chapter 23 of his Gospel.

1. **His soul:** To the Paradise compartment of Hades. [See Luke 16:19-31]

Luke 23:43 - And (Jesus) said to the (believer criminal), “Truly I say to you, today you shall be with Me in Paradise.”

2. **His human spirit:** To the presence of God in Heaven.

Luke 23:46 - And Jesus, crying out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into Your hands I commit My [human] spirit.”

3. **His body:** To the tomb of Joseph in Jerusalem.

Luke 23:52 - [Joseph from Arimathea] went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

Luke 23:53 - And he took it down and wrapped it in a linen cloth, and laid Him in a tomb cut into the rock, where no one had ever lain.

This of course required a trichotomous reunification if the resurrection was to occur.

The omnipotence of God the Father restored our Lord's human spirit from heaven back to His body in the grave.

Ephesians 1:18 - I pray that the eyes of your stream of consciousness may be enlightened so that you may know

Ephesians 1:19 - what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might [divine omnipotence]

Ephesians 1:20 - which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead.

The omnipotence of the Holy Spirit restored our Lord's human soul from Hades to His body in the grave.

Romans 8:11 - If the Holy Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through the Holy Spirit who indwells you.

This reunification resulted in the resurrection—visual and historic proof that God the Father was satisfied with the work of Jesus Christ on the cross.

Since the resurrection and ascension, Jesus Christ has been in the status of undiminished deity and resurrected humanity in one Person forever.

Since sin was no longer an issue in the Angelic Conflict, our Lord's attention is now focused on preparing a body of believers to accompany Him at His Second Advent and assist Him in performing His duties as Messiah in His Millennial reign headquartered on David's throne, in Jerusalem.

This of course is for a time yet future but it is certain to occur, not only because it is prophesied but also because the resurrection guarantees it.

During the Incarnation, Jesus claimed to be the Messiah and His teachings, miracles, and acts of healing were offered as proof to those who observed.

The question which must have been on the minds of those who were His followers were, “Does God truly affirm Jesus as Messiah?”

The answer came three days after the crucifixion. There is no way God the Father and God the Holy Spirit would have restored the spirit and soul of our Lord and lifted Him from physical death in resurrection body had He not been the One whom the Father had sent.

The resurrection is visual, historical proof that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God.