



Christianity:

What difference does the resurrection make to Christians?

Topic Overview

- Christians believe Jesus willingly gave up his own life in order to take on the punishment for *all sin*, for *all people*. Because of sin, people need to be saved and Jesus brings salvation.
- The Gospel presents a number of witnesses to the resurrection.
- Belief in Jesus' resurrection confirms to Christians that Jesus is the incarnate Son of God, but also that death is not the end.
- This belief gives Christians hope for life with God, starting now and continuing in a new life (heaven).
- Many Christians say that a belief in the resurrection of Jesus, and therefore that death is not the end, leads to hope.
- Jesus' resurrection means that Christians have hope of a life after death.

Links with other religions

- **The Son of God** (Judaism). Jews do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God.
- **Eternality** (Christianity). Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, Christians believe that after they die, they will have eternal life in Heaven with God.
- **Life after Death** (Judaism). While Jewish people believe there is a life after death, the details of this are unclear. Most Jews concentrate on living a good life today in the present, rather than what will happen when they die.
- **Samsara** (Sikhism). Many Sikhs believe that all beings have a soul (atma). The atma is a part of Waheguru within them. Through a series of reincarnations, Sikhs believe they will be purified and able to return to Waheguru.
- **Samsara** (Buddhism). The Buddha taught that humans are born an infinite number of times, unless they achieve Nirvana (enlightenment).
- **Samsara** (Hinduism). Most Hindus believe that humans are in a cycle of death and rebirth called samsara. When a person dies, their atman (soul) is reborn in a different body.
- **Akhira** (Islam). Muslims believe in everlasting life after death in Al-Jannah (Paradise) or Jahannam (Hell)..

Key Vocabulary	Definition
Gospels	The Gospels give accounts of Jesus' death and resurrection. They are found in the New Testament (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John).
Incarnate	In human form.
Salvation	The saving of human beings from sin and its consequences, which include death and separation from God by Christ's death and resurrection.
Sacrifice	*To give up something that is valuable to you in order to help another person. *To kill an animal or a person and offer them to a god or gods.
Resurrection	The rising of Jesus from the dead.
Sin	Purposely disobeying the rules of God.

