

Resurrection Sunday 2022

# The Sign of Jonah

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Dean Bible Ministries

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**Resurrection Day, 2022**

**The Sign of Jonah  
Matthew 12:39–40**



**John 20:29, “Jesus said to him, ‘Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.’ ”**

**John 20:30, “And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;**

**John 20:31, “but these [signs] are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”**

## **1. Resurrection:**

**When a person is raised from the dead and given an immortal body. In Greek it is used for the raising of someone back to life in their mortal body as well, but in English I will make a distinction.**

**John 11:24, “Martha said to Him, ‘I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.’”**

**John 11:25, “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.’”**

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**ἀνάστασις *anastasis***

**Noun fem sing nom**

**“standing up, resurrection from the dead, insurrection, resurrection”  
Not a technical term.**



**2. “Raise from the dead” – by this term I will mean restoring life to someone who has truly died, but they do not receive an immortal body. Example: the widow of Nain’s son (Luke 7:11–17), Lazarus (John 11), Tabitha (Acts 9:40), Eutychus (Acts 10:9–10).**

**Acts 9:40, “But Peter put them all out, and knelt down and prayed. And turning to the body he said, ‘Tabitha, arise.’ And she opened her eyes, and when she saw Peter she sat up.**

**Acts 9:41, “Then he gave her his hand and lifted her up; and when he had called the saints and widows, he presented her alive.”**

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**What was the reason for the sign of Jonah?**

**What was the sign of Jonah?**

**How was the sign of Jonah fulfilled?**

**What was the reason for the sign of Jonah?**

**Matt. 12:38, “Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered, saying, ‘Teacher, we want to see a sign from You.’”**

**Matt. 12:39, “But He answered and said to them, ‘An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.’”**

**Matt. 12:40 , “ ‘For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.’ ”**

**Luke 11:29, “And while the crowds were thickly gathered together, He began to say, ‘This is an evil generation. It seeks a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah the prophet.**

**Luke 11:30, “ ‘For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also the Son of Man will be to this generation.’ ”**

**Context: The Pharisees reject Jesus as Messiah and claim He performed miracles by Beelzebul.**

**Matt. 12:22, “Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw.**

**Matt. 12:23, “And all the multitudes were amazed and said, ‘Could this be the Son of David?’**

**Matt. 12:24, “Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, ‘This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.’ ”**

**Jesus responded based on His omniscience.**

**Matt. 12:31, “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men.**

**Matt. 12:32, “Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.”**



- 1. The “forgiveness” here is not personal forgiveness, but national, or corporate, forgiveness.**
- 2. The sin here is national, the rejection of Jesus as the Messiah. From this point on He never offers the kingdom, the message changes, miracles are not for the masses, but to teach the disciples, He teaches in parables and not openly.**
- 3. The sin was only for that generation.**
- 4. The sin was not related to personal salvation, but that the judgment was irreversible for that generation.**

**Matt. 12:41, “The men of Nineveh will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and indeed a greater than Jonah is here.**

**Matt. 12:42, “The queen of the South will rise up in the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and indeed a greater than Solomon is here.”**

**Jonah 2:2, “And he said: ‘I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, and He answered me. “Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and You heard my voice.**

**Jonah 2:3, “ ‘ “For You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the floods surrounded me; All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.” ’**

**Jonah 2:4, “Then I said, ‘I have been cast out of Your sight; Yet I will look again toward Your holy temple.’ ”**

**Jonah 2:5, “The waters surrounded me, even to my soul;  
The deep closed around me; Weeds were wrapped around  
my head.**

**Jonah 2:6, “I went down to the moorings of the mountains;  
The earth with its bars closed behind me forever; Yet You  
have brought up my life from the pit [*shachat* “corruption,  
destruction, pit”], O LORD, my God.**

**Jonah 2:7, “When my soul fainted within me, I remembered  
the LORD; And my prayer went up to You, into Your holy  
temple.”**

**Psa. 16:10, “For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption.”**

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**Acts 2:30, “Therefore, being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne,**

**Acts 2:31, “he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption.”**

**Whether Jonah was dying and near death, and possibly died, though I am not convinced, evidence is too ambiguous, but either way it is a picture of resurrection.**

**“Three days and three nights”**

**Matt. 26:61, “and said, ‘This fellow said, “I am able to destroy the temple of God and to build it in three days.” ’ ”**



**“Three days and three nights”**

**Matt. 27:63, “saying, ‘Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, “After three days I will rise.” ’ ” (Mark 8:31)**

**“Three days and three nights”**

**Matt. 16:21, “From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.”**

**Matt. 17:23, “ ‘and they will kill Him, and the third day He will be raised up.’ And they were exceedingly sorrowful.”**

**Matt. 20:19, “and deliver Him to the Gentiles to mock and to scourge and to crucify. And the third day He will rise again.”**

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# **The First Sign of Jonah: Lazarus**

**2. The Third Sign, not yet. The two witnesses resurrected.  
Revelation 11:7–12**

### **3. The Second Sign to the Jewish People and to the world is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**John 20:11, “But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb.**

**John 20:12, “And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.**

**John 20:13, “Then they said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.’ ”**

### **3. The Second Sign to the Jewish People and to the world is the resurrection of Jesus Christ.**

**John 20:14, “Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus.**

**John 20:15, “Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?’ She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, ‘Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away.’**

**John 20:16, “Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to Him, ‘Rabboni!’ (which is to say, Teacher).”**

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## The Rejection

**Matt. 28:11**, “Now while they were going, behold, some of the guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened.

**Matt. 28:12**, “When they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers,

**Matt. 28:13**, “saying, ‘Tell them, “His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.”’

**Matt. 28:14**, “ ‘And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will appease him and make you secure.’

**Matt. 28:15**, “So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.”