
Bodily Resurrection Survey

(George Battey)

The following survey was conducted among several of our congregations in early to mid-December, 2015. Twelve congregations were asked to participate, but only eleven actually mailed results of the survey to me.

When calculating totals those who "disagreed" and those who "didn't know" were lumped together. For example, statement #1 reads as follows: "When Jesus resurrected His physical body (that died on the cross) was raised back to life." In response, 82% agreed with that statement, 12% disagreed, and 5% did not know. When presenting my sermon I said 18% did not believe in the bodily resurrection of Jesus. That is a true statement because people who "do not know" do not believe.

Notice in the above example that the percentages do not add up to 100% as one might expect. When one adds $82\% + 12\% + 5\%$ one gets 99%. These percentages are rounded off decimal calculations. In reporting the results, I likewise rounded off the sums when reporting the results.

Some reported to me later that some of the statements were confusing to them. They interpreted some of the statements differently than I intended. Hence, some confessed that if they had the survey to take over again, they would have responded differently to some of the statements.

In conclusion, while there is certainly room for some margin of error in these findings, the overall message of the survey is crystal clear: **We need to get busy preaching on the resurrection.**

	Church #1	Church #2	Church #3	Church #4	Church #5	Church #6	Church #7	Church #8	Church #9	Church #10	Church #11	Totals		
People	11	25	8	20	42	41	24	35	15	40	13	274		
1) When Jesus resurrected His physical body (that died on the cross) was raised back to life.														
Agree	10	23	5	19	35	30	20	25	14	32	13	226	82%	1a
Disagree	0	1	3	1	5	8	3	7	1	5	0	34	12%	1b
Don't know	1	1	0	0	2	3	1	3	0	3	0	14	5%	1c
2) When Jesus ascended into heaven He retained His physical body (that died on the cross).														
Agree	6	13	2	3	25	8	7	7	0	11	2	84	31%	2a
Disagree	3	9	6	14	14	32	14	22	11	27	11	163	59%	2b
Don't know	2	8	0	3	3	1	3	5	4	2	0	31	11%	2c
3) Jesus presently has a physical body in heaven.														
Agree	3	7	0	4	19	6	7	2	2	9	1	60	22%	3a
Disagree	5	10	8	15	14	30	16	27	10	25	12	172	63%	3b
Don't know	3	8	0	1	9	5	1	4	3	6	0	40	15%	3c
4) The physical bodies of Christians be raised back to life when Jesus returns.														
Agree	8	16	2	8	30	18	7	12	3	18	6	128	47%	4a
Disagree	1	5	6	12	10	18	15	19	12	18	7	123	45%	4b
Don't know	2	4	0	0	2	5	2	4	0	4	0	23	8%	4c
5) Christians will retain their physical bodies throughout eternity.														
Agree	1	6	0	0	3	5	5	3	1	5	2	31	11%	5a
Disagree	5	12	8	19	37	32	18	30	10	32	11	214	78%	5b
Don't know	5	7	0	1	2	4	1	2	4	3	0	29	11%	5c
6) Christians will be spirit-beings in heaven (without bodies) just like the angels.														
Agree	5	9	6	16	8	25	10	25	10	27	10	151	55%	6a
Disagree	1	8	2	3	30	8	10	6	4	8	3	83	30%	6b
Don't know	5	8	0	1	4	8	4	4	1	5	0	40	15%	6c
7) Christians will recognize one another in heaven.														
Agree	7	20	5	15	31	27	20	32	9	34	13	213	78%	7a
Disagree	2	1	2	3	7	7	1	0	2	1	0	26	9%	7b
Don't know	2	4	1	2	4	7	3	3	4	5	0	35	13%	7c
8) Heaven is completely spiritual (with no physical qualities).														
Agree	4	5	6	10	9	16	8	17	9	14	8	106	39%	8a
Disagree	5	7	1	15	27	13	9	14	5	13	3	112	41%	8b
Don't know	2	13	1	5	6	12	7	4	1	13	2	66	24%	8c
9) Jesus stopped being a man when He resurrected.														
Agree	4	6	3	10	11	18	8	9	7	11	7	94	34%	9a
Disagree	6	14	2	7	20	15	15	21	7	22	6	135	49%	9b
Don't know	1	5	3	3	11	8	1	5	1	7	0	45	16%	9c
10) Jesus is still a man (human) right now.														
Agree	2	3	0	2	18	0	5	0	2	6	1	39	14%	10a
Disagree	6	17	8	15	11	28	18	30	13	31	12	189	70%	10b
Don't know	3	5	0	3	13	8	1	4	0	3	0	40	15%	10c

11) Women will still be women and men will still be men in heaven.

Agree	8	7	2	5	11	17	4	11	2	15	6	88	32%	11a
Disagree	1	15	4	11	14	10	10	16	11	8	6	106	39%	11b
Don't know	2	3	2	4	17	9	10	8	2	17	1	75	28%	11c

12) When Christians "put on immortality" and "put on incorruption," this means they will no longer have physical bodies.

Agree	4	10	5	12	12	18	13	22	9	18	9	132	49%	12a
Disagree	3	8	3	3	26	6	6	3	3	11	1	73	27%	12b
Don't know	4	7	0	5	4	13	5	9	3	11	3	64	24%	12c

13) It really doesn't matter what we think about the resurrection because it's going to happen anyway whether we understand it or not.

Agree	7	15	6	14	17	20	14	25	11	27	3	159	59%	13a
Disagree	4	9	2	3	16	13	10	9	4	11	8	89	33%	13b
Don't know	0	0	0	3	9	4	0	1	0	2	2	21	8%	13c