

# DEATH, RESURRECTION, AND ASCENSION

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. What happened to Jesus' soul while He was dead? Why?
2. St. Paul wrote, "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father" (Philippians 2:10-11). How can you connect this Scripture verse to Jesus' descent into hell?
3. An ancient homily imagined what Christ's words to the holy souls in hell might have been: "I order you, O sleeper, to awake. I did not create you to be held a prisoner in hell. Rise from the dead, for I am the life of the dead. Rise up, work of my hands, you who were created in my image." Does this message have relevance for the living? How so?
4. What is the "crowning truth" of our Faith? How would you describe the Paschal Mystery in your own words?
5. How do we know that believing in the Resurrection isn't enough to go to Heaven?
6. Read the following quote from St. Ambrose, and connect it to what we've been learning all year. What does he mean that we must "cross over from Egypt"? How do we do that?

"Pascha means the crossing over, and so the Festival is called by this name. For it was on this day that the Children of Israel crossed over out of Egypt, and the Son of God crossed over from this world to His Father. What gain is it to celebrate unless you imitate Him whom you worship; that is, unless you cross over from Egypt, that is, from the darkness of evildoing to the light of virtue, from the love of this world to the love of your heavenly home?"  
—St. Ambrose of Milan

7. Jesus ascended into Heaven 40 days after the Resurrection. Can you connect that time frame to any other events in Salvation History?
8. What does it mean that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father?
9. Jesus' Ascension into eternal glory is our hope and our promise that we, too, can someday go where He has gone. How does this connect to the idea that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life?
10. What does the Bible tell us will happen at the Last Judgment?
11. What will be the ultimate meaning of the end of the world?
12. How does that meaning connect to the Paschal Mystery?