

**Early Christian Creed in 1 Corinthians 15:3-9:
Creeds Confirming Resurrection in New Testament**

1 Corinthians 15:3-9

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| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:3</u></p> <p>³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “delivered” & “received” = technical terms in 1st century Jewish writings for oral traditions¹ • “died for our sins”: generally not plural in Paul’s letters (50 out of 56 times)² • “according to the Scriptures”: not used in Paul’s letters except here³ |
| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:4</u></p> <p>⁴and He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day, according to the Scriptures</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “He was buried”: not used in Paul’s letters except here⁴ • “He was raised”: only used in 1 Corinthians 15 and 2 Timothy 2:8 (& reflects Jewish tradition)⁵ • “on the third day”: not used in Paul’s letters except here⁶ • “according to the Scriptures”: <i>see above</i> |
| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:5</u></p> <p>⁵And that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.”</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “that”: repetition 3 times as a sign of oral tradition⁷ • “He appeared”: not used except here and 1 Tim. 3:16⁸ • “twelve”: only occurs here⁹ |

¹ Justin Bass, *The Bedrock of Christianity*, p. 75 n. 100 (2020) citing Joachim Jeremias, *Eucharistic Words of Jesus*, p. 101 (1966); Benjamin Shaw, *Trustworthy*, p. 55 (2024) (technical terms for “passing on rabbinic traditions”).

² Bass, p. 78, n. 103; *see also* Pinchas Lapide, *The Resurrection of Jesus: A Jewish Perspective*, p. 98-99 (2002) (“Vocabulary, sentence structure, and diction are clearly un-Pauline”).

³ Bass, p. 78, n. 103; Lapide, p. 98 (“The double reference ‘in accordance with the scriptures’ supports twice in three lines both the death and the resurrection of Jesus – as it probably corresponds with the faithfulness of the early church to the Hebrew Bible”).

⁴ Bass, p. 78, n. 103; Lapide, p. 98.

⁵ Bass, p. 78, n. 103 (only used in 1 Cor. 15:4, 12-12, 16, 20 and 2 Timothy 2:8); Lapide, p. 98 (“The ‘divine passive’ of ‘being raised’ paraphrases God’s action of salvation in order not to mention God, in accordance with the Jewish fear of the name”).

⁶ Bass, p. 78, n. 103.

⁷ Lapide, p. 98 (“The threefold ‘and that’ characterizes the Aramaic and Misnaic Hebrew way of narration”).

⁸ Bass, p. 78, n. 103.

⁹ Bass, p. 78, n. 103; Lapide, pp. 98-99 (“‘The twelve’ as a closed group of the first witnesses includes also Judas – this both agrees with the consciousness of Jesus to be sent to all of Israel and contradicts the supposed suicide of Judas (Matt: 27:5”).

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| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:6</u></p> <p>⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verifiability: Paul challenges readers to seek verification • Not Rebutted: No historical evidence that any witnesses refuted this claim |
| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:7</u></p> <p>⁷then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “James”: Eyewitness to Jesus’ Resurrection appearance • ‘apostles’: More than the twelve original disciples (otherwise reference would be duplicative) |
| <p><u>1 Corinthians 15:8</u></p> <p>And last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.</p> | <p><u>Textual Analysis</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paul: Eyewitness to the risen Jesus • Not Rebutted: Atheist Maurice Casey & Jesus Seminar acknowledge Paul as eyewitness |