

d. As previously noted He could do this before His resurrection. See Lk. 4:28-30.

4. **What about 1 Peter 3:18?**

a. These words are difficult, but they must not be used to contradict clear passages affirming Jesus had a physical body.

b. The word "spirit" may refer to the Holy Spirit.

c. We know it was by the Spirit Jesus was raised from the dead. (Rom. 8:11).

5. Many hold this is the meaning of the passage.

a. They hold that Jesus preached to the antediluvians through the Holy Spirit and Noah - "a preacher of righteousness." (2 Pet. 2:5; 1 Pet. 1:12).

b. It is said that the "spirits in prison" were not in prison at the time of the preaching, but at the time of the writing of First Peter.

6. Others believe the "spirit" refers to the divine spirit of Christ. See Lk. 23:46

a. They insist that Jesus in His spirit preached to the spirits in prison between the time His body was placed in the tomb on Friday and Sunday.

b. They are not sure **what** Jesus preached to the spirits.

c. They are not sure **why** Jesus preached to the antediluvians only.

d. They are not sure if the spirits were angels who sinned or men who sinned or both.

e. They are not sure if the message was a message of triumph or condemnation or salvation.

7. This interpretation presents some difficult problems.

a. The Bible teaches Jesus went to Paradise on Friday. (Lk. 24:39-43)

b. Nothing is said about Jesus going to Hades and preaching to the antediluvians.

c. The uncertainties above in [6] remain unanswered in this view.

d. Even if Jesus did proclaim some message to the antediluvians, this would not prove He was raised a spirit.

What His spirit did during His death and resurrection has nothing to do with whether He was raised spiritually or physically.

How Do We Explain The Appearance Of Jesus?

1. The Bible clearly affirms Jesus was raised physically. (1 Cor. 15:1-22; Acts 13:35; Rom. 8:11).

2. He could suddenly appear and suddenly disappear, but He could do this before His resurrection.

3. This is a miracle and does not disprove a bodily resurrection.