

Study Examples

1. A Study in the Use of Patristic Quotations

Mt. 27:50-54 – The bodies of the saints which slept arose.

John 11:11-14 – Sleeping equated with death

Some points to note:

- a. Mt. 27:52b-53 contradicts I Thes. 4:13-18.
- b. Break in chronological order.
- c. Appearances not mentioned elsewhere (cf. Lazarus – John 12:9-11, Jesus Christ – Acts 2:24, 32; 3:15; 4:10; 5:30)
- d. Respector of persons – Acts 10:34
- e. Yet no known MSS omit these words (cf. Interlinear footnotes)
- f. Patristic quotations:
 - Lactantius (d. 320) omits the words once
 - Origen (185-254) omits the words three times, yet they would have supported his arguments
 - Melitio (d. 190) omits the words three times
- g. “bodies ... arose” not used elsewhere.
 - Mt. 27:63 I will rise again.
 - Mt. 27:64 He is risen (28:6, 28:7)
- h. Greek words for “resurrection”:
 - anastasis* always used when speaking of the resurrection of Jesus Christ (cf. Acts 1:22, 2:31, 4:33).
 - egesisis* (Mt. 27:53) not used elsewhere in the NT. First used by Irenaeus (c. 130 – c.200 AD), first one recorded to quote this forgery.

2. Was the cross emphasized in the church of the first century?

- a. I Cor. 1:23, 2:1-2 – Christ crucified
- b. How often is “cross” used in the book of Acts?
- c. How often is “tree” used in the book of Acts? What is emphasized in the context?
- d. How often is crucify or crucified used in the book of Acts? What is emphasized in the context?
- e. How often is resurrection used in the book of Acts?
- f. How often is *pneuma* used in the book of Acts?
- g. What does Jesus Christ emphasize in his final instructions to his apostles, as recorded in Luke 24 and Acts 1?
- h. I Cor. 3:1-3 – Context.

3. The Accomplished Work of Jesus Christ

Count how many past-tense verbs you can find in the first chapter of Ephesians.

4. The Importance of Thankfulness

See what things we are encouraged to be thankful for in the Church Epistles (Romans – II Thes.).

5. Cease Not

What was it that the believers did and were exhorted to do **without ceasing** in the Church Epistles?

6. Grace, Mercy, and Peace

Find four verses that contain all three words: grace, mercy, and peace. Who are the grace, mercy, and peace from?

7. Delighted in God

See what you can learn about being delighted in God and His Word from the Book of Psalms.

8. Waiting on the Lord

See what you can learn about waiting on the Lord from the Book of Psalms.