



**The DAILY JESUS NEWS #344**  
**Jesus' Resurrection and Eternal Ministry**  
**Six More Resurrection Appearances of Jesus Over 40 Days**

**Jesus' Ninth Resurrection Appearance: To His Younger Half-Brother, James**  
**I Cor. 15.7A (Related Text: James 1.1A)**

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Then he appeared to James... (I Cor. 15.7A)

I am James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ... (James 1.1A)

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NOTE: We use superscript identification of the source gospel in "blended texts" as follows: Matthew = <sup>MT</sup>, Mark = <sup>M</sup>, Luke = <sup>L</sup>, John = <sup>J</sup>, Acts = <sup>A</sup>. This "superscript ID" is inserted at the beginning of the quoted text, identifying that Bible book until a different superscript appears. In addition, *red italics identify the words of Jesus*. Old Testament quotations are CAPITALIZED.

	CONTEXT DIGEST
Location	An Unknown Location, Probably in Galilee
Timeline	April (Month 39)
Jesus' Life Context	Stage IX: The Resurrection and Eternal Ministry of Jesus
	The Resurrection and 40 Day Ministry of Jesus
	6 More Resurrection Appearances of Jesus Over 40 Days
Title:	Jesus' 9th Resurrection Appearance: To James

Jesus' ninth resurrection appearance was recorded by the apostle Paul, but is not mentioned in the four gospels. It therefore highlights the rationale for our approach to compiling the complete life of Jesus, according to the Scriptures, in the DAILY JESUS NEWS.

There are important aspects of Jesus pre-incarnate life, earthly ministry, and eternal ministry after the ascension that are not mentioned in the four gospels. This material makes up about 7% of the total Scriptural content of Jesus' life. We believe this material, which includes more of Jesus' words than the entire "Teaching on the Mount," should be known and routinely studied as part of his life by all followers of Jesus. We therefore include this material in our ATJ Ministries publication, "The SAGA of JESUS." This content is divided into #365 consecutive readings in the DAILY JESUS NEWS.

The appearance to James is a great case in point. This younger half-brother of Jesus is mentioned three times in the gospels. He is named as the first brother of Jesus in Mark 6.1. This implies that he was the second oldest son of Joseph and Mary, after Jesus. In Mark 3.31-35 (and the parallel accounts in MT and LK), James came with Mary and some other brothers to attempt to stop Jesus' ministry during his second tour of Galilee, and bring him home. The accusations by the Pharisees that Jesus was demon-possessed, and ministering by the power of the Devil apparently were of great concern to James and the rest of his brothers and sisters.

It is clear from JN 7.3-5 that James did not believe in Jesus' miracles or Messiahship, and he mocked Jesus just prior to the Feast of Tabernacles. This occurred about six months before Jesus' death and resurrection.

Yet, this same James began his letter with the confession of his faith in "*the Lord Jesus Christ*." (James 1.1) This is the same word ("Lord") that Thomas used for Jesus in his confession in JN 20.28. It shows us that James considered Jesus to be YHWH, the God of Israel. It is a Trinitarian confession of the highest order, that identifies Jesus as the Creator God of Genesis Ch. 1, the King of the universe.

So James went from believing that Jesus was a just a mere man, his brother, who might have been a little crazy, but was definitely NOT the Messiah, to confessing him as the Living, True God of all creation.

How many people in the world believe their own brother is the Creator and Lord of the universe? That he is omniscient and omnipotent? How does one change from doubt that your brother is fully sane, to believing that he is God Almighty? Most people would think that James was the crazy one for believing that his brother was YHWH!

The resurrection appearance to Jesus to James is the only satisfying explanation for the abrupt shift in James' faith, and his confession of Jesus' Deity. If Jesus proved that he was alive from the dead to James—in a new, eternal body, not his old one—then James' faith makes sense. That is surely what happened in Jesus' ninth resurrection appearance.

The Apostle Paul wrote in his official witness list of the resurrection (1 Cor. 15.3-9) that Jesus appeared to James. This appearance was common knowledge in the early church, and it explains why James was held in such high regard by his fellow believers.

James was the only non-believer to which Jesus appeared during his forty day post-resurrection ministry. It was important that a male believer who knew the entire earthly life of Jesus intimately be a witness to his resurrection, and leader in the early church. This would prevent the kind of fantastic miracle-stories about Jesus' early life that developed around the church in the second and third centuries from becoming part of the truthful record of his life that the early eye-witnesses—the apostles themselves and James—preserved for us in the gospels and other Scriptures.

James was the leading elder of the church in Jerusalem, writer of the epistle bearing his name, and preserver of the truth about Jesus' first thirty years spent at home.

The appearance to James is powerful historical proof of the resurrection. There is just no other credible explanation for his faith in Jesus as YHWH...God Almighty...the Creator, Sustainer, Savior, and LORD of all.

#### APPLICATION:

Jesus' risen presence transformed James. It also transforms us. Jesus alive, in and with us, makes all things possible, so we can all say with Paul: *"I can do all things in which Christ is strengthening me."*

Your testimony of meeting Jesus through the gospel may not be as dramatic as James, but it is just as transforming, because the power of the resurrection will ultimately make each of us just like Jesus in body and in character.

*How can you trust in the power of the resurrection to change you today? To set new habits into motion, and leave others behind?*

*What past transformations that Jesus wrought in you by his power can you remember today, as encouragement in where Jesus is taking you today, and tomorrow?*