

The Witness of Ignatius: Tralles



The Twenty-One Witnesses

Books of Instruction

The Witness of Two Ways of Life and Death

The Witness of Two Paths of Light and Darkness

The Witness of The Twelve Apostles

Book of Christ

The Witness of Jesus

Books of Teaching

The Witness of the Barren Woman

The Witness of Rome's Letter to Corinth

The Witness of the Jewish Scriptures

Books of Visions

The Witness of the Four Visions

The Witness of the Shepherd

Books of Ignatius, Disciple of Apostles

The Witness of Ignatius: Ephesus

The Witness of Ignatius: Magnesia

The Witness of Ignatius: Tralles

The Witness of Ignatius: Rome

The Witness of Ignatius: Philadelphia

The Witness of Ignatius: Smyrna

The Witness of Ignatius: Polycarp

Books of Polycarp, Disciple of Apostle John

The Witness of Polycarp

The Witness of the State Execution of Polycarp

Books of Philosophers

The Witness of Aristides (Greek)

The Witness of Quadratus (Greek)

The Witness of Justin (Samaritan)

THE WITNESS OF IGNATIUS: TRALLES

Compiled by
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Front cover image – Fresco of Saint Ignatius on the south-west chapel of the Hosios Loukas monastery in Greece. Anonymous. Unknown author, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons.

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Scriptures of Unconditional Love

They are called Scriptures of Unconditional Love because GOD is Unconditional Love (1 John 4:16) and these Scriptures will help us to walk in the ways of Unconditional Love. We should live by Unconditional Love because Moses commanded it (Leviticus 19:18) and so did Jesus the Christ (Matthew 22:37-39). There are an initial thirty of these books to be published. Some are still in process but should be ready by the end of 2026. Once they are completed, more will be added.

The Twenty-One Witness books have been updated from their previous titles and translations using the South-London English that I grew up with. I also replaced the word “church” with “community of GOD’s people” and “Lord” with “RULER” as these are more accurate translations. These twenty-one were chosen because they do not contradict the Old or New Testaments in any way but rather provide us with a means to interpret the Holy Bible more accurately and with additional knowledge and understanding.

Nobody had ever told me what was going to happen when I submitted my life to Christ on a South-London Street in February 1974, aged 13. I had a physical Holy Spirit experience as an “atomic bomb of joy” exploded in my being. As I walked along the street, it was like I was floating three feet off the ground. That evening, a Spirit person visited me and wrote these words in my heart with light and fire, “Do not rebuke the church”. The end result of this encounter are these Scriptures of Unconditional Love.

The Four Gospels-In-Advance

The Gospel of Isaiah

The Gospel of King David

The Gospel of Moses

The Gospel of The Prophets

These are the books of Written Miracles. Ancient prophecies and predictions scattered throughout the Holy Bible's Old Testament concerning the appearance of Christ. These prophecies were made hundreds, some over a thousand, years before Christ appeared. They were all miraculously fulfilled with pin-point accuracy by Jesus of Bethlehem and Nazareth. There are so many of them that they could only have been put there by Holy Spirit. Certain Jewish scholars, who did not want Jesus to be their Messiah or Christ, started deleting the more obvious prophecies. You can find some of them restored in the books of the twenty-one witnesses. It is best to read the Gospels of Isaiah and King David first as they will strengthen your faith so that your heart can be prepared to receive the teachings and testimonies of the twenty-one witnesses.

The Twenty-One Witnesses

It is like we have twenty-one new witnesses presenting themselves before a court with new evidence and testimonies that GOD is real, and Christ is knowable. Some of these witnesses might have come forward from the era of 'Belonging to the Way' which was from AD 33 (Jesus's physical and spiritual resurrection from the dead) to AD 47 after which time those 'Belonging to the Way' were first called Christians. Most of the other witnesses belong to the pre-church era of the Original First Christians. This era spanned from AD 47 to AD 155 when Polycarp, the Disciple of John the Apostle, was executed for being a Christian by the Roman Empire. The Roman Church filled the vacuum with their own authority and 'brand' and were a powerful influence in starting the new 'church age'. Eventually, the twenty-one witnesses were banned from the New Testament in the fourth century by Emperor Constantine's Roman Church of Christendom, even though these scriptures were originally treasured by Christians of the first and second centuries. Fearing persecution, holders of the books managed to hide them and keep them safe. One thousand two hundred and fifty years later they began to be rediscovered again. Silence broken. Christianity unrestricted. Let them speak. Let us listen.

If they had been allowed to speak and were given their rightful place in the New Testament, they would have acted as salt and light to have a purifying effect on the religious authorities down the centuries. The world would not have experienced the abuses of zealous misguided religious powers. There would have been no crusades, no inquisitions, no witch hunts, no public burnings and no religious persecutions. There would have been no need for European colonialism either as the colonised nations would already be worshipping Christ, having destroyed their gods. The world would have been a better place as the unconditional love of Christ became the new currency that replaced cruelty. The Good Confession would have united the community of GOD's people and all the gods would have been annihilated. There would also have been no need for GOD to send the Qur'an. Having said that, the church has done a vital job in helping to get rid of many gods by either destroying or absorbing them. My hope is that these twenty-one witnesses will serve to destroy the remaining gods in the world leaving Devil Satan, who has won the right to remain here, as the sole survivor from the original sin rebellion. Hindus and similar, must abandon all their gods and worship Krishna alone. You can read the books of enlightenment when they have been published, to understand more about this. It is also now time for those churches that have absorbed pagan gods and practices, to get rid of them.

The church's shortcomings can be traced all the way back to AD 154 when Anicetus, Bishop of Rome, refused to accept the Nisan 14 Passover date that Polycarp, disciple of apostle John, and the other apostles observed, regardless of the day of the week it landed on. Anicetus instead kept to what we now know as the Easter dates which should be abandoned in favour of Nisan 14.

The twenty-one witnesses reveal to mankind that all the books of the Holy Bible should be read in the context of GOD versus the gods. In this war, each one of us finds ourselves at one of five stages.

Stage One: Individuals abandon their god(s). It is better to practice secular atheism than to worship demons.

Stage Two: Acknowledge GOD but don't agree with GOD. Presenting oneself regularly before GOD, either in a church or some other similar gathering will help your case with your Creator.

Stage Three: Agree with GOD but don't obey.

Stage Four: Try your best to obey GOD.

Stage Five: Full submission to GOD. This is perfection.

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The Witness of Justin (Samaritan)

The Twenty-Second Witness

The Witness of The Qur'an

The Witness of The Qur'an was delivered between AD 609–632. It was delivered by Angel Gabriel to Muhammad because both the Jewish and Church systems and authorities had become corrupt. It's rather like GOD opened another front in the war to destroy GOD's enemies who were the gods. Many of the gods were fallen angels, demigods and demons being worshipped by mankind.

Books of Enlightenment

Philip's Testimony

Enoch – Before Noah's Flood

The History of the Spirit World

Enlightenment

The books of enlightenment explain the war that has been, currently is and will be raging in heaven and on earth until it is won by Christ. They also provide a whole lot more information, which when combined with the knowledge of the twenty-one witnesses, helps the reader to understand life, the universe and everything a whole lot better.

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>Scriptures of Unconditional Love</i> | v |
| The Prayer of Jesus | 1 |
| The SoUL Song | 2 |
| Introduction To: The Witness of Ignatius: Tralles | 4 |
| THE WITNESS OF IGNATIUS: TRALLES | 14 |
| The Good Confession | 20 |

The Prayer of Jesus

Come near and draw close to GOD and GOD will draw near to you – James 4:8

The Spirit of Jesus is EHYEH ASHER EHYEH which is the Name GOD told Moses when asked (Exodus 3:14).

Jesus told us to use these words when talking to GOD:

***“Our Father in Heaven,
May your Name be kept Holy,
Your Kingdom come,
Your Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.***

***Give us enough bread to eat today.
Forgive us our sin as we have forgiven those who
have sinned against us.
Do not allow us to be tempted, but deliver us from
the Evil One.
Yours is the power and the glory forever and ever.”***

The Witness of The Twelve Apostles.

The SoUL Song



EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

IHU KARAITI

EGO SUM QUI SUM

I AM WHO AM

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

I AM THE WAY

I AM THE TRUTH

I AM THE LIFE

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

I AM THE LIGHT

I AM THE DOOR

I AM THE GOOD

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

I AM THE SHEPHERD

I AM THE BREAD

I AM THE VINE

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

I AM THE RESURRECTION

I AM THE START

I AM THE END

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

I AM THE ALPHA

I AM THE OMEGA

I AM WHO AM

EHYEH ASHER EHYEH

IHU KARAITI

EGO SUM QUI SUM

I AM WHO AM

Introduction To: The Witness of Ignatius: Tralles

When was it written?

AD 107. Virtually every expert agrees that he wrote his letters during the reign of Trajan. Early church historian, Eusebius, places the date at AD 107 and I find no good reason to do otherwise.

Where was it written?

From the cities of Smyrna and Troas in Asia Minor (nowadays Turkey). He had been arrested in Antioch in Syria by Roman soldiers and was being taken as a prisoner in chains to Rome. In Rome, he was executed as GOD's witness by being thrown alive to the killer beasts in the arena for Roman entertainment.

From Smyrna: The letters to Ephesus, Magnesia, Tralles and Rome.

From Troas: The letters to Philadelphia, Smyrna and Polycarp.

Who wrote it?

Ignatius of Antioch in Syria. Eusebius writes the following about him:

During those days, Polycarp, a disciple who mixed with the apostles, was held in very high regard throughout Asia, after being appointed the chief overseer of Smyrna by people who had seen and listened to the RULER. Papias, chief overseer of Hierapolis, also became well known at around that time. Likewise, Ignatius, who was appointed chief overseer of Antioch to succeed Peter.

The great renown and reputation of Ignatius was known by many. We are told he was taken from Syria to Rome to be eaten by killer beasts because of his witness to Christ. He was taken through Asia by soldiers under close guard. In every town and city that he passed through, he built up and encouraged the Christian community with his words. As a priority, he cautioned them to be on their guard against the heresies that were starting to take root, strongly persuading them to stick closely to the teachings handed down by the apostles. He believed it was vital to write down these teachings for the purpose of ensuring greater safety.

To that end, when he arrived in Smyrna where Polycarp was, he wrote a letter to the Christian community in Ephesus in which he mentions Onesimus, its chief overseer. He wrote another one to the Christian

community in Magnesia on the Meander, in which he mentions chief overseer Damas. Then he wrote to the Christian community in Tralles, whose chief overseer he mentions at that time was Polybius. Finally, he wrote to the Christian community in Rome virtually begging them not to deprive him of his great longing for hope by getting him released from his execution as GOD's witness. As confirmation of all this, here are some small extracts from his letters:

'From Syria to Rome I fight with wild animals by land and sea, at night and by day, being chained to ten leopards, a unit of soldiers that is. When they are treated pleasantly, they become worse. Regardless of their bad treatment, I am becoming a better disciple, not that this justifies me. What great pleasure I will have with the killer beasts that are waiting for me. I hope they will be eager to kill me. I will even coax them to eat me quickly and without the delay given to others by not attacking them out of fear. If they are reluctant to attack me I will force them to. Do excuse me in this for I know what is best for me. At last, I am starting to become a disciple. Allow no person seen or unseen to become jealous of me as I reach Jesus Christ. Let fire, execution wood, killer beasts, ripping of flesh, breaking and dislocation of bones, mutilations of my body, smashing my human frame and all the dreadful tortures of Devil Satan come upon me, only let me reach Jesus Christ.'

He wrote this from Smyrna. After leaving Smyrna he went to Troas and wrote letters to the Philadelphians, the Christian community in Smyrna, and then a special one to Polycarp their chief overseer. Because he knew that Polycarp was an apostolic man, he entrusted the Christian community in Antioch to him as a true and good shepherd. He urged him with grave seriousness to care diligently for it. In the letter to Smyrna, he quotes an unknown passage about Christ:

‘For I know without any doubt that after his resurrection he still possessed his body of flesh and blood. When, for example, he came to those with Peter, he told them, “Grab hold of me with your hands and see that I am not just a spirit without a body.” And immediately they touched him and believed, being convinced both by his physical body and spirit.’

Irenaeus also knew of his execution as GOD’s witness and states the following in his writings:

‘Just as one of our number said when he was condemned to the killer beasts because of his witness to GOD: “I am GOD’s wheat being ground by the teeth of killer beasts so that I will become pure bread for GOD.”’

Polycarp also mentions these letters in his letter to the Philippians:

'I therefore call on you all to obey the teaching of righteousness and to practice unlimited endurance. This endurance you saw face to face, not only in the blessed Ignatius, Zosimus, and Rufus, but also in others belonging to your own folk, and in Paul himself with the rest of the apostles. You have no doubt whatsoever that none of them ran in vain but in faith and righteousness and that they are now in the place of reward being by the side of the RULER whose sufferings they shared in. They did not love this present world, but him who died on our behalf and was raised by GOD for our sakes.'

Later he adds the following:

'Both you and Ignatius wrote to me that if anyone was going to Syria he should also take your letters. I will do this if I get a good opportunity, either myself or the one whom I am sending as a representative for you and me. We send you, as you asked, the letters of Ignatius which were sent to us by him, together with any others that we have in our possession – just as you requested us to do. These are attached to this letter, and you will be able to receive great benefit from them. They deal with faith, patience, and every kind of spiritual growth that has to do with our RULER.'

That concludes Ignatius. He was succeeded by Heros as chief overseer at Antioch.

Why was it written?

Several reasons:

1. In response to the community of GOD's people at Ephesus, Magnesia and Tralles for sending delegations to meet him at Smyrna. It was more than a thank-you letter for their show of solidarity and comradeship.
2. The letter to Rome was sent to beg them not to intervene and stop him from being executed. Much was at stake. If he had been released, some people might think that he had made the sacrifice to Caesar as god and cursed Christ.
3. To fight against the heresies of the false teachers. Some of these heretics were trying to find acceptance inside the community of GOD's people.
4. To maintain the unity within the community of GOD's people by appointing trustworthy overseers to a new higher office of chief elder. The Judaisers and Docetists were considered by Ignatius as the main threats. The Judaisers wanted Christians to conform to Judaism and adopt Jewish customs and practices. The Docetists believed that matter was evil and therefore Jesus could not have had a real body because he was good. They were saying that he only appeared to have a real body, and therefore could not have suffered and died.

What authority does it have?

1. Polycarp. When an approved disciple of the Apostle John recommends that we all read the letters of Ignatius, then we must read them regularly, both publicly amongst the communities of GOD's people and privately on our own.
2. Irenaeus.
3. Eusebius.

How was it rediscovered?

At one time there were fifteen letters that bore the name of Ignatius. Eight of these were found to be spurious and written at a later time. Only seven were eventually recognised as being genuine. Eusebius listed the seven genuine letters which appear in both volumes of the Apostolic Fathers collection. The genuine letters had remained undiscovered until 1644 when they were rediscovered by Archbishop Ussher of Ireland. He found them contained in two manuscripts in English libraries and subsequently published them.

Interesting points

- Ignatius is so concerned to protect and preserve the Truth that the apostles had delivered to the community of GOD's people, that he makes a number of statements of Truth. The Scriptures of Unconditional Love compile

these into a single statement of faith (mostly taken from his letter to Smyrna):

The Good Confession of Truth (Ignatius Composite)

We agree with the Apostles and believe that there is only one Healer who is made of both flesh and spirit, born and unborn, GOD in the flesh, true life surrounded by death, son of Mary and Son of GOD, initially experiencing suffering then afterwards beyond suffering – Jesus Christ our RULER.

For our GOD, Jesus Christ:

- 1. Was conceived in Mary's womb according to the pre-planning of GOD and by the Holy Spirit*
- 2. Is physically descended from the line of David according to ancestry*
- 3. Is the Son of GOD according to the will and power of GOD*
- 4. Was born the son of Mary when she was still a virgin*
- 5. Ate and drank among us, both before being killed and after being raised up to life again*
- 6. Was baptised by John in order that all righteousness might be fulfilled by him*
- 7. Was nailed and crucified for us in his physical body under Pontius Pilate and Herod the Tetrarch*

8. *Died in full sight of persons in heaven, on earth, and under the earth*
9. *Was physically and spiritually raised from the dead when his Father raised him up*
10. *Was touched and handled by his disciples after his resurrection. His disciples then saw that he was composed of flesh while being spiritually united with the Father at the same time. For this reason, his disciples also treated death with the same contempt.*

He suffered all these things for our sakes so that we might be saved and likewise be raised up from the dead by the Father if we believe in Jesus Christ. He has raised up a standard for all ages through his resurrection, to rally together his holy and faithful people whether among Jews or non-Jews, in the one body of the community of GOD's people.

- Ignatius was the first to introduce a third tier of leadership, being the chief overseer. He did this to stop heresy and keep unity. When Polycarp was executed, heresies then became rampant, and the Christian unity began to break down into church schisms. The office of chief overseer then became obsolete; however, the church schisms chose to keep it going instead of returning to the original two-tier model provided by the apostles.

- Down through the ages, there have been certain people on a life quest to discover a potion to give them eternal life. Some have called it the '*elixir of life*' and others '*the fountain of eternal youth*'. But the good news is it has now been discovered and Ignatius shares it with everyone. He names it the medicine of immortality and the antidote to death. It is the Thanksgiving – the flesh and blood of Jesus Christ that we must eat and drink so that we can live forever and never die.
- Two of the letters Ignatius wrote are to Philadelphia and Smyrna. These are the only two communities of GOD's people out of seven in all that are commended without any rebuke by Jesus Christ in Revelation. Ignatius's letters were therefore written only fifteen years after Jesus Christ's expressed approval of them. Polycarp might even have been an overseer in Smyrna at that time, if not he would have been appointed by the Apostle John a few years later to maintain the high standard that Jesus Christ had praised them for.

THE WITNESS OF IGNATIUS: TRALLES

From Ignatius who is called '*GOD bearer*' to the community of GOD's people at Tralles in Asia.

You are dearly loved by GOD the Father of Jesus the Christ as his special people and a credit to GOD. You are at peace through the flesh, spirit and suffering of Jesus the Christ who is our hope because we will be resurrected in unity with him. I salute you wholeheartedly as would the apostles. May you be full of happiness.

I know that you are beyond reproach and rock-solid in patient endurance; not a recent habit but an inherent part of your nature as Polybius your chief overseer has proven to me. By the will of GOD and Jesus the Christ he came to me in Smyrna and was overjoyed to see that I was a prisoner in chains for Jesus the Christ. In him, I saw your entire community. Having received your godly goodwill, I gave thanks knowing that you were imitators of GOD just as I thought you would be.

When you are in line with the chief overseer as if he was Jesus the Christ, it is clear to me that you are not living by man's standards but in accordance with Jesus the Christ's, who died for us so that by believing in his death we might never die ourselves. It is therefore vital that you continue to do nothing without the chief overseer. Also, you should be

obedient to the overseers as if they were the apostles of Jesus the Christ. He is our hope, and we will obtain eternal life if we live in unity with him now. Likewise, those who are assistant overseers of the mysteries of Jesus the Christ should please everyone, for they are not only distributors of food and drink but servants of the community of GOD's people. They should remain above criticism as diligently as they would run from fire.

In the same way, everyone must respect the overseers as representing Jesus the Christ, the chief overseer as a reflection of the Father, and the assistant overseers as GOD's councillors and circle of apostles. Without these, no group can call itself a community of GOD's people and I am already convinced that you agree with me on this point. Your chief overseer, who is with me right now, has provided me with a living example of your love. I have learned a great deal while being in his presence. His gentleness is incredibly powerful, and I should imagine that even godless people respect him. I could write to you about these things on his behalf in a stronger tone, however, as a prisoner, I don't believe it is right for me to give you orders as if I were an apostle.

I have deep knowledge of GOD, but I keep myself in check in case my boasting lands me in trouble. Right now though, it is more important to give due respect to GOD and not pay any attention to those who flatter me. It is painful just to hear them say it. While I am happy to suffer as one of GOD's

witnesses condemned to be executed, I am not sure that I deserve it. Devil Satan's envy of me is not known by many people but he is aggressively bringing the war to me. What I need then is gentleness because it destroys the ruler of this world.

Can't I write to you about matters concerning heaven? Please excuse me but I am worried about hurting you if I do because you are mere infants and might choke. As for myself, even though I am a prisoner in chains and can understand matters concerning heaven such as the variety of roles and authorities of angels, their chains of command and things visible and invisible, yet for all this I am still learning to become a disciple. We go without many things in order to not go without GOD.

Therefore, I urge you (not really me but the love of Jesus the Christ does) to eat only Christian food and don't taste anything from anyone else, which is heresy. Those who do are mingling Jesus the Christ with their poisonous teachings while they pretend to be trustworthy. It is like giving someone a drink of honey wine laced with deadly poison. The unsuspecting victim gladly accepts it, then with fatal pleasure drinks down death.

Be on your guard, therefore, against such people. You will be if you are not conceited and maintain an intimate relationship with Jesus the Christ our GOD, the chief overseer, and the teachings of the apostles. He who lives

within the walls of the sanctuary is pure, but he who is on the outside is unclean. In other words, whoever does anything without the chief overseer, the overseers, and the assistant overseers, does not have a clear conscience.

It's not that I know you have accepted such things, but I like to watch over you because I love you dearly and want to warn you of Devil Satan's traps in advance. Be clothed in gentleness and re-ignite your faith which is the flesh of the RULER, and your love which is the blood of Jesus the Christ. None of you should hold a grudge against his neighbour. Don't give any opportunity for unbelievers to defame the reputation of the greater community of GOD's people because of the foolishness of a few. For, *"Great despair awaits him by whose foolishness my Name is blasphemed among any."*

Close your ears to anyone speaking untruths about Jesus the Christ who:

- Was descended from David
- Was the son of Mary
- Really was born
- Ate and drank
- Really was persecuted under Pontius Pilate
- Really was crucified

- Really died in full sight of persons in heaven, on earth, and under the earth
- Really was raised from the dead when his Father raised him up.

In the same way, the Father will also raise us up in Jesus the Christ if we exercise faith in him, for apart from him we do not have real life.

And if that, as some unbelieving atheists say, he only appeared to suffer (it is they who appear to exist), then why am I a prisoner in chains? Why do I look forward to fighting killer beasts? If they are right then I die in vain and worse, I become guilty of telling lies about the RULER.

Run away quickly, therefore, from those evil offshoots that produce the fruit of death. If anyone tastes it, they die immediately. These men have not been planted by the Father. If they had been they would be clearly seen as branches of the execution wood and produce undying fruit. By this execution wood and because of his suffering, he calls you who are his body. The head cannot live without the body since GOD will make sure there is unity which is what he is all about.

From Smyrna, I salute you, along with the communities of GOD's people who are here with me now. They have revitalised me in every way, both physically and spiritually. Even the chains, which I carry around for the cause of Jesus

the Christ (while praying that I will reach GOD), urgently shout out to you, *“Live in unity and pray for each other.”* It is right that you and the overseers encourage the chief overseer in honour of the Father, Jesus the Christ and the apostles. I pray that you will listen to me in love, otherwise the things I have written will serve as a witness against you. Pray also for me as I need your love by GOD’s mercy in order to prove worthy of the destiny that awaits me and not get shipwrecked.

The Smyrnaeans and Ephesians send their love and salute you. Remember in your prayers the community of GOD’s people in Syria. Being the lowest amongst them I am not worthy to belong to them.

Goodbye in Jesus the Christ. Keep yourselves in line with the chief overseer in accordance with the Commandment, and likewise with the overseers. Love one another, every one of you, with an undivided heart. My life is sacrificed for you, not only now, but also when I reach GOD. I am still in danger, but the Father is faithful in Jesus the Christ to answer both our prayers. May we be found blameless in him.

The Good Confession

We agree with the apostles and believe that there is only one Healer who is made of both flesh and spirit, born and unborn, GOD in the flesh, true life surrounded by death, son of Mary and Son of GOD, initially experiencing suffering then afterwards beyond suffering – Jesus the Christ our RULER.

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- Was baptised by John in order that all righteousness might be fulfilled by him
- Was nailed and crucified for us in his physical body under Pontius Pilate and Herod the Tetrarch
- Died in full sight of persons in heaven, on earth, and under the earth

- Was physically and spiritually raised from the dead when his Father raised him up
- Was touched and handled by his disciples after his resurrection. His disciples then saw that he was composed of flesh while being spiritually united with the Father at the same time. For this reason, his disciples also treated death with the same contempt.

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