

It's surprising how many people sincerely claim to have seen a ghost.

An Englishman, who lived many years ago, revealed that about 100 people could remember an apparition in which they had a vivid impression of seeing or touching an object without any physical cause.

Also, there are authenticated accounts of apparitions appearing to famous people, like the authors Rider Haggard and J.E. Phillips.

During one very disastrous fire in the Antarctic, the great explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton noticed a mysterious 'white man' in his party who seemed to act somehow as a guardian.

The same thing occurred in the case of a World War I British soldier, P.F. JENSEN. He and his two friends all noticed a 'fourth man' who accompanied them during part of their journey to Iceland. But, in due course, the 'fourth man' disappeared. Shortly after, the 'fourth man' was captured which is rather an unusual story connected to the story.

There are other tales, some of which are found in the Bible. One of these does have a proper ending, one that explains the ghost.

What happened was this. The friends of Jesus were absolutely bewildered. After his death his body had been laid in the cold tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. Now they would never see him again.

## "THE CHRISTIAN FAITH"

However, now they weren't sure where the body was. There were reports of meetings with Jesus. It was actually as they were discussing the latest of these reports that they suddenly realized that Jesus was in the room with them.

It's surprising how many people sincerely claim to have seen a ghost.

An English survey conducted many years ago revealed that about 10% of people could remember an experience in which they had a vivid impression of seeing or being touched by an object without any physical cause.

Also, there are authenticated accounts of apparitions appearing to famous people, like the authors Rider Haggard and J.B. Phillips.

During one very hazardous trek in the Antarctic, the great explorer, Sir Ernest Shackleton noticed a mysterious 'extra man' in his party who seemed to act somehow as a guardian.

The same thing occurred in the case of a World War I British escaper, Commander Stokes. He and his two friends all noticed a 'fourth man' who accompanied them during part of their journey to freedom. But, in due course, the 'fourth man' disappeared. Stokes's party was then re-captured which is rather an unsatisfactory conclusion to the story.

There are other tales, some of which are found in the Bible. One of these does have a proper ending, one that explains the ghost.

What happened was this. The friends of Jesus were absolutely bewildered. After his death his body had been laid in the cold tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. They knew they would never see him again.

However, now they weren't sure where the body was. The grave was empty. There were reports of meetings with Jesus. It was actually as they were discussing the latest of these reports that they suddenly realised that Jesus was in the room with them.

It must have been an eerie moment. How would you feel? They assumed at once that they were looking at a ghost. They yelled with fear and terror.

Now, this is very interesting. Their reaction - natural though it was - was quite wrong. It was no ghost. Jesus removed that fear at once. 'Look at my hands and my feet', he said to them, 'feel me and see; ghosts have no flesh and bones as you can see that I have'.

This was not a case of a ghostly visitor from the dark beyond. It was not some pale survivor of death, flitting here and there. It was a case of resurrection, no less; a case of triumph over death; and Jesus promptly proved the reality of his resurrection by eating a meal of fish and honey.

The disciples were delighted. They became the key witnesses to this Resurrection. They saw that it showed Jesus Christ to be the Son of God and Lord of all things. In later days they defied the hatred of the world, in order to stick to their story. There was no ghost.

That's why this is such a good ghost story. After all ghosts don't matter one way or another, for most ghost stories there is a perfectly natural explanation. But for this story, the explanation is perfectly supernatural, and it proves that Jesus Christ has defeated death and hell, and is alive for evermore.



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