

Defending the Faith—Resurrection

1. Review of where we have been so far...
2. Prayer
3. Introduction
 - a. Without Bill Gates there would be no Microsoft
 - i. Without Steve Jobs there would be no Apple computers
 - ii. Without the internal combustion engine there would be no cars
 - iii. Without wings there would be no airplanes
 - iv. Without rackets there would be no tennis
 - v. Without Russell Wilson there would be no super bowl trophy in Seattle
 - b. Without the resurrection of Jesus Christ there would be no Christianity.
 - i. In other words, the resurrection is the lynch pin of Christianity.
 - ii. If the resurrection is not a historical reality, then Christianity is false, and we are wasting our time this morning.
 - iii. On the other hand, if the resurrection did happen than everyone who has ever lived will be affected either negatively or positively by it.
 - c. That is interesting Dave.
 - i. I'm glad that you're a person of faith. But I'm not a person of faith. I don't have the faith to believe that some guy named Jesus of Nazareth rose from the dead 2000 years ago. I believe in science...
 - ii. Unfortunately, many people think that faith is something we do when we run out of evidence.
 - iii. On the contrary faith is based on evidence. Perhaps a better word than faith is the word trust. The only reason you should have faith in anything is if you have evidence to believe it is true.
 - d. Faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ is based on evidence.
 - i. We don't believe because we lack evidence we believe in light of the evidence.
 - ii. There is plenty of evidence for the resurrection.
 - e. History of skepticism!
 - i. Over the years many scholars have set out to disprove the bodily resurrection of Jesus.
 - ii. Yet many of these exceptional scholars have been moved by the evidence to embrace Christianity.
 - iii. This list includes

1. J.D. Anderson
2. Lee Stroebel
3. William Ramsay
4. Josh McDowell
5. Frank Morison
6. Gilbert West
7. J. Warner Wallace

iv. Frank Morrison, a very gifted English Lawyer, set out to write a book titled “Disproving the Resurrection of Jesus.”

1. He was totally convinced he could prove that it was all bunk.
2. However, after meticulous research he wrote an entirely different book titled “*Who Moved the Stone?*” arguing for the truthfulness of the resurrection.
3. He proved the historicity of the resurrection by adopting the rules of evidence used in courts of law.
4. Here are the opening words to this book.

a. “This study is, in some ways, so unusual and provocative that the writer thinks it desirable to state here very briefly how the book came to take its present form. In one sense, it could have taken no other, for it is essentially a confession, the inner story of a man who originally set out to write one kind of book and found himself compelled by the sheer force of circumstances to write quite another. It is not that the facts themselves altered, for they are recorded imperishably in the monuments and in the pages of human history. But, the interpretation to be put upon the facts underwent a change. Somehow the perspective shifted—not suddenly, as in a flash of insight or inspiration, but slowly, almost imperceptibly, by the very stubbornness of the facts themselves.” (Morrison, *Who Moved the Stone?*, Preface)

f. My objective this morning is to put forward evidence for the resurrection?

i. Talk about apologetic methodology here...

g. FEAT that demonstrates the Fact of the resurrection (Hank Hanegraff).

- i. Fatal Torment
- ii. Empty tomb
- iii. Appearances
- iv. Transformation

1. Fatal torment

a. Did Jesus really die on the cross?

i. In other words, was his suffering fatal? If his suffering was not fatal, then the resurrection is irrelevant.

ii. **Swoon Theory**

1. This theory argues that Jesus did not actually die on the cross. While on the cross he was given drugs to make it seem like he was dead. This would ensure that he would be cut down from the cross and then be nursed back to life by his accomplices. This theory has many problems.
2. Problem one-
 - a. All the non-Christian historians of Jesus day report that Jesus died
 - i. Josephus
 - ii. Tacitus
 - iii. Thallus
 - iv. Jewish Talmud
 - v. There are no historical documents that teaches this theory.
3. Problem two-
 - a. The Romans soldiers in charge of his crucifixion were professional executioners and they were convinced for several specific reasons that Jesus was dead.
 - b. Since they thought he was dead, they did not break his legs. Breaking his legs would have sped up his death, because crucifixion victims usually died of asphyxiation because they could not push themselves up to breath. With broken legs, one could not lift up their body to breath.
 - c. They knew that they would face death if they allowed a prisoner to survive crucifixion. (Wallace, 14)
 - i. Would they really be foolish enough to remove a living person from the cross?
 - d. According to the historically reliable gospel accounts, the guards stabbed Jesus and observed both blood and water pouring from his body.
 - e. A sign that he was already dead.
4. Problem three-
 - a. There is no way that any man could live after he suffered what Jesus suffered.
 - i. He was whipped repeatedly to within an inch of his life.
 - ii. He was stabbed four times with 7 inch led nails.
 - iii. Later he was stabbed in the side with a roman spear causing water and blood to flow forth (which modern medicine says is proof that he was dead).
 - iv. He was then wrapped in 75 pounds of bandages and spices
 - v. He was then laid in a cold dark tomb with no water for three days while in critical condition.
 - vi. Furthermore, let's say he was alive. How would he be able to roll back a two-ton rock with pierced hands and feet and then get passed elite Roman guards (who would be killed for letting it happen)???

5. Problem four-

a. Contemporary medical opinion believes that he died.

- i. Writing in the March 21, 1986, edition of the Journal of the American Medical Association, three medical doctors, including a pathologist from the Mayo Clinic, concluded:
- ii. “Clearly, the weight of historical and medical evidence indicates that Jesus was dead before the wound to his side was inflicted and supports the traditional view that the spear, thrust between his right rib, probably perforated not only the right lung but also the pericardium and heart and thereby ensured his death. Accordingly, interpretations based on the assumption that Jesus did not die on the cross appear to be at odds with modern medical knowledge.”

1. I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 305). Crossway. Kindle Edition.

6. *The swoon theory has way too many problems...*

iii. **The Muslim theory**

1. This is similar to the swoon theory.
2. Muslims deny that Jesus died on the cross. Instead, they claim, at the last-minute God had someone else who looked like Jesus die in Jesus' place.
3. Major problem.... The only evidence for this is the Quran, which was written by one man six hundred years after the fact.
4. Plus, everyone who watched (friends, family, guards, Jews) were all deceived about who was actually being crucified???
5. This is like saying that Abraham Lincoln was not the one killed next to his wife on that April evening in Ford's theater in 1865. Was Mary Lincoln mistaken, the bodyguard, and everyone else too???

b. Did Jesus really die on the cross? Was his torment fatal? Yes

- i. Jesus' death on the cross is not contested by any historians (Christian or non-Christian)
 1. Gary Habermas has done the most extensive work on the resurrection in the history of scholarship (he may have been recently surpassed by NT Wright who argues the same thing).
 2. He collected 1400 of the most critical scholarly works published from 1975 - 2003.

3. He concludes that virtually all scholars (liberal unbelievers and Bible thumping fundamentalists) believe that certain things are established historical fact-

- a. Jesus Christ of Nazareth really lived
- b. Jesus Christ really died by Roman crucifixion
- c. Jesus Christ really was buried in a private tomb
- d. Jesus Christ's tomb was empty very soon after his interment
- e. Jesus followers had experiences *that they believed* were actual appearances of the risen Jesus.
- f. Jesus followers lived transformed lives as a result of these experiences.
- g. Jesus followers proclaimed the historicity of the resurrection in Jerusalem very shortly after Jesus died.
- h. Just a few years later Saul of Tarsus claims that he was converted by the risen Christ.

ii. One scholar writes,

1. "A number of years ago, there was an article in U.S. News & World Report, a prominent secular magazine, that was titled 'Jesus' Last Days.' It said, in part: 'Yet even the most skeptical biblical scholars conceded that something extraordinary happened in Jerusalem after Good Friday to account for the radical change in the behavior of the disciples, who, at Jesus' arrest, had fled to their own homes in fear. Could Jesus' Resurrection account for the fact that within a few weeks they were boldly preaching their message to the very people who had sought to crush them?'" (Reflections, 218)

iii. Furthermore, "eyewitnesses" saw the resurrected Christ.

1. More on these guys in a moment....
2. If there is better historical evidence repudiating the death of Jesus, please bring it forward!!!

b. *We are establishing the fact of the resurrection with the acronym FEAT.*

i. *Fatal Torment...*

2. Empty tomb

- a. It is an undeniable fact that the tomb was empty.
- b. So how do people account for this?
- c. There are only four options ever put forward

d. *First, the witnesses went to the wrong tomb*

- i. This is highly unlikely because Joseph of Arimathea was a prominent man with a prominent tomb in a small town.
- ii. Furthermore, if they went to the wrong tomb, the Romans could have easily gone to the right tomb and paraded his body around Jerusalem.

- iii. Furthermore, did all the Jews and Romans really have a “collective Amnesia” about where the body was? Highly unlikely.
- iv. Even if the disciples went to the wrong tomb this does not matter because Jesus appeared 12 different times after this. (show chart from page 302 of I don't have enough faith to be an Atheist). Great chart!!!

e. Second, the disciples stole the body

- i. If the disciples stole the dead body the disciples obviously knew he was dead and had not risen.
- ii. People are willing to die for something they believe is true but not something they know is false.
 - 1. “And then, you're left with the disciples. Could they have stolen the body, disposed of it, and then have spent the rest of their lives propagating a lie, particularly when the heart of their teaching was to be committed to proclaiming the truth? Does anyone seriously believe that these men who were discouraged, defeated, and who feared for their lives, would go out, steal Jesus' body, and then proceed to boldly preach the Resurrection to hostile crowds? What would motivate them to do this? Why face prison, torture, and death, all the while knowing that Jesus' dead body lay in some hidden place?” (Reflections, 218)
- iii. One scholar writes,
 - 1. “For some inexplicable reason, they stole the body in order to get themselves beaten, tortured, and martyred! Adherents to this theory cannot explain why anyone would do this. Why would the disciples embark on such a self-defeating conspiracy? And why did every one of them continue to say that Jesus had risen from the dead when they could have saved themselves by recanting that testimony?” (I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (pp. 306-307). Crossway. Kindle Edition.)
- iv. Furthermore, how in the world did this rag tag group of men with no military experience get past 20-30 professional roman soldiers to steal the body?
 - 1. These guards were highly disciplined and trained.
 - 2. Subject to brutal punishment, more than likely death, for failure.
 - 3. The tomb was sealed with a two-ton stone.

f. Third, his enemies stole the body

- i. If this were true, the Jewish authorities and the Romans would have paraded Jesus dead body around the city proving that he did not rise from the dead.
- ii. As the famous British historian Arnold Toynbee said: “If only they could have found the body of that Jew [Jesus] Christianity crumbles into ruins.” (Reflections, 217)
- iii. “If the 500-plus eyewitnesses did have the unprecedented experience of seeing the same hallucination at twelve different times, then why didn't the Jewish or Roman authorities

simply parade Jesus' body around the city? That would have ended Christianity once and forever. They would have loved to do so, but apparently they couldn't because the tomb really was empty." (I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 302). Crossway. Kindle Edition.)

g. Fourth, Jesus rose from the dead which is why the tomb was empty

- i. His friends said the tomb was empty...
- ii. His enemies implied the tomb was empty...
 1. The Jewish response to "he is risen" was "his body is stolen" not here is his body! This proves that the tomb was in fact empty.
- iii. Non-Christians admitted his tomb was empty...
 1. "Did the Roman writer Phlegon (born ca. A.D. 80) lie as well when he wrote in his Chronicles, 'Jesus, while alive, was of no assistance to himself, but that he arose after death, and exhibited the marks of his punishment, and showed how his hands had been pierced by nails'?"¹⁰ (I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 307). Crossway. Kindle Edition.)
- iv. One scholar writes,
 1. "Notice that the empty tomb did not convince most of the disciples (with the possible exception of John) that Jesus had risen from the dead. It was the appearances of Jesus that turned them from scared, scattered, skeptical cowards into the greatest peaceful missionary force in history." (I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (pp. 303-304). Crossway. Kindle Edition.)
- v. This brings us to our next point.

h. Fatal torment

i. Empty tomb

3. Appearances

a. Here are some objections to the post resurrection appearances of Christ.

i. First objection- all the disciples were hallucinating.

1. They thought they saw the risen Christ, but it was actually a hallucination.
2. Problems
 - a. "Hallucinations are not experienced by groups but only by individuals. In that regard, they are a lot like dreams. That's why if a friend says to you one morning, "Wow! That was a great dream we had last night, eh?" You don't say, "Yeah, it was fabulous! Should we continue it tonight?" No, you think your friend has gone mad or is just cracking a joke. You don't take him seriously because dreams are not collective experiences.

Individuals have dreams—groups do not. Hallucinations work the same way.” (I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 302). Crossway. Kindle Edition.)

- b. Furthermore, hallucinations don't last for days.
- c. Furthermore, hallucinations don't take place all over Spokane at different times to different types of people.
- d. Christ did not appear to just one person, at one point, in one location.
- e. He appeared to over 500 people in different places.
- f. On six of the twelve appearances Jesus was touched physically.

ii. Second objection- everyone believed in resurrections in the 1st century.

1. Problem-

- a. Keller- “The people of that time would have considered a bodily resurrection to be as impossible as the people of our own time, though for different reasons.” (Reason for God, 208)

iii. Third objection- the resurrection appearances were legends that slowly grow over time.

1. Problems-

- a. “In the earliest accounts of the disciples' activity after the crucifixion, they are seen citing the resurrection of Jesus as their primary piece of evidence that Jesus was God. From the earliest days of the Christian movement, eyewitnesses were making this claim. The students of the disciples also recorded that the resurrection was a key component of the disciples' eyewitness testimony. The earliest-known Christian creed or oral record (as described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 15) includes the resurrection as a key component. This explanation also fails to account for the fact that the tomb and body of Jesus have not been exposed to demonstrate that this late legend was false.” (Wallace, 21)

b. One scholar notes-

- i. “The faith of the disciples did not lead to the [resurrection] appearances, but it was the appearances which led to their faith; they then searched the scriptures.”

1. I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 310). Crossway. Kindle Edition.

b. The appearances of the risen Christ are very believable for many reasons-

- i. He was seen in different places
- ii. Over a period of forty days
- iii. He was seen eating and drinking
- iv. Walking and talking

- v. By male and female alike
- vi. He was see over a dozen times
- vii. He was seen inside and outside
- viii. He was seen by over 500 people at once

- 1. These people could have been cross-examined because they were alive.
- 2. Let's say that I told you that I played a tennis match against Roger Federer last week.
- 3. I played so well that I actually beat him.
- 4. After I beat him he gave me a million bucks.
- 5. How would you find out if this was true or not? You would talk to Roger!!!

- ix. He was physically touched
- x. None of the critics could produce his dead body.
- xi. He was seen and believed by Jews
- xii. This was all very public...

xiii. Show great chart at the bottom of the document called "How Christianity started" from credohouse.org

- c. *Fatal torment*
- d. *Empty Tomb*
- e. *Appearances*

(Stopping place???)

4. Transformation

- a. Millions of lives have been transformed by the resurrected Christ.
- b. Some say the transformation of Christians can be explained away-
 - i. I admit that Life transformation does not prove the truth of an idea-
 - 1. Look at Islam...
 - 2. But the transformation of these monotheistic, non-Trinitarian, Jews is astonishing.
 - 3. Within weeks of the resurrection over 10 thousand Jews converted to Christ. (Habermas)
 - a. This is astonishing in light of the cost involved.
 - b. They went from non-Trinitarian to Trinitarian
 - c. They went from believing that it was blasphemy, (punishable by death) to worship Jesus to worshipping Jesus themselves.
 - 4. People will die for something they think is true, but they will not die for something they know is false. The disciples were in a position to know for sure that the resurrection was either true or false.

5. Since the time of Christ billions of people have been transformed by their belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christianity is largest religion in the world? Over 2 billion people today worldwide find evidence for the resurrection compelling.

c. **Summary of FEAT**

- i. Several hundred years before Christ hundreds of very specific prophecies are given about his life death and resurrection.
 - ii. Jesus Christ came fulfilling these very specific prophecies.
 - iii. Monotheistic Jews who are passionately opposed to worshipping a man start to worship Jesus Christ as he teaches and performs miracles.
 - iv. Jesus dies (this is confirmed by non-Christian sources of the time)
 - v. The disciples are completely dejected and afraid.
 - vi. Three days later Jesus rises from the grave and appears to more than 500 people.
 - vii. These eyewitnesses are transformed and full of faith.
 - viii. Many of them are so convinced of Jesus resurrection that they are willing to suffer and die.
 - ix. The resurrected Christ continues to radically transform lives around the world today.
- d. Back to my original premise... Christians have faith in the resurrection because of the evidence not the lack thereof.
- i. One author writes,
 - ii. “Christianity is the world’s most falsifiable religion, yet it survived. The believer in the Islamic faith has to trust in a private encounter Muhammad had, and this encounter is unable to be tested historically. We have no way to truly investigate the claims of Joseph Smith (and when we do, they are found wanting). Buddhism and Hinduism are not historic faiths, meaning they don’t have central claims of events in time and space which believers are called upon to investigate. You either adopt their philosophy or you don’t. There is no objective way to test them. Run through every religion that you know of and you will find this to be the case: Either it does not give historic details to the central event, the event does not carry any worldview-changing significance, or there are no historic events which form the foundation of the faith.” (Michael Patton- Now that I am a Christian: What it means to follow Jesus)
 - iii. Every religion but Christianity you must accept on blind faith. You cannot falsify it. On the other hand, Christianity’s truthfulness is based on historical events that can be tested or falsified.
 - iv. In other words, Christianity is the only world religion that is historically defensible.

- v. In contrast the other religions of the world cannot be historically defended. They must be accepted with blind faith...

e. Objection 1- The Bible is full of errors!

- i. Dave some of the evidence for the resurrection is found in the Bible and we all know the Bible is full of contradictions and errors. Right???
- ii. I already covered this a few weeks ago, but let me review.
- iii. Response 1 —Can you show me the contradictions and errors?
- iv. Response 2—The Bible contains hundreds of fulfilled prophecies.
- v. Response 3—The Bible (again and again) confirms the findings of modern science.
- vi. Response 4—The Bible historicity corresponds perfectly with the most recent discoveries of archaeology.
- vii. Response 5—
 - 1. The NT documents we have are better preserved, more numerous, and closer to the date of their writing than any other document in the ancient world.
 - 2. We have over 5,600 Greek manuscripts for the NT from the ancient world to support the reliability of the NT. Including other languages, we have 24,000 pieces of manuscript evidence for the reliability of the NT.
 - 3. Nothing else from the ancient world even comes close...
- 4. Show chart from bottom of document
- viii. Response 6—The Bible was written over a period of 1500 years by over 40 authors in 3 different languages, yet it tells one unified story with no contradictions.
- ix. Response 7—No book, in the history of books, has been scrutinized like the Bible yet the Bible remains standing.

f. Objection 2- I don't believe in miracles.

- i. Response—
 - 1. Cosmological
 - 2. Teleological
 - 3. Moral
- ii. The theistic arguments make miracles possible.
- iii. OT prophecy about the resurrection makes miracles expected.
- iv. Eyewitness testimony confirms that miracles happened.

- v. There is way more historical evidence for the life of Christ then for the life and exploits of Alexander the great. Furthermore, the meager evidence for Alexander the great is dated over 300-500 years after his death. The massive amounts of historical evidence for Christ, comes 30-40 years after his death, from his close followers. (Geisler, 321)
- vi. In light of these facts, Norm Geisler writes,

- 1. “Why do skeptics demand “extraordinary” evidence for the life of Christ but not the life of Alexander the Great? Because they’re hung up on miracles again. Despite the fact that miracles are possible because God exists—and despite the fact that miracles were predicted and then witnessed—skeptics can’t bear to admit that miracles have actually occurred. So they set the bar for believability too high.” (Geisler, 322)

g. Objection 3- The NT copied pagan resurrection myths.

- i. Specifically, the pagan resurrection myths from Marduk, Adonis, Osiris.
- ii. Response-
 - 1. Unlike Pagan myths the NT accounts are loaded with eyewitness evidence and corroborated by outside evidence.
 - 2. The NT accounts have no similarities to pagan myths.
 - 3. According to CS Lewis,
 - a. “All I am in private life is a literary critic and historian, that’s my job,” said Lewis. “And I’m prepared to say on that basis if anyone thinks the Gospels are either legends or novels, then that person is simply showing his incompetence as a literary critic. I’ve read a great many novels and I know a fair amount about the legends that grew up among early people, and I know perfectly well the Gospels are not that kind of stuff.”¹⁷
 - i. I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist (Foreword by David Limbaugh) (p. 311). Crossway. Kindle Edition.
 - 4. In addition, the pagan myth theory can’t explain the empty tomb, the martyrs, the eyewitnesses, etc...
 - 5. Furthermore, the 1st century critics of the resurrection understood the NT writers to be making historical claims not mythical claims.
 - 6. Most importantly, the first real parallel of a dying and rising God does not appear until 150 AD. More than 100 years of the origin of Christianity. False religions copied Christianity, not the other way around. (Geisler, 311).
- a. Dave I still don’t believe...
 - i. If you’re a skeptic, you have the burden of proof for your alternative theories.
 - ii. You must be willing to provide first century evidence contrary to the Gospel accounts.

- iii. You must be willing to disregard eyewitness testimony.
- iv. You must be willing to put forward an alternative theory that you can back up with at least 3-4 first century sources.
- v. You must be willing to explain why 2 billion people worldwide are wrong.

2. Conclusion

a. Still not convinced...

- i. Consider the corroborating evidence...
- ii. The incredible impact of Jesus Christ on world history.
- iii. He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant. He grew up in another village, where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was 30. Then, for three years, he was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a home. He didn't go to college. He never lived in a big city. He never traveled 200 miles from the place where he was born. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but himself. He was only 33 when the tide of public opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While he was dying, his executioners gambled for his garments, the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, he was laid in a borrowed grave, through the pity of a friend. [Twenty] centuries have come and gone, and today he is the central figure of the human race. I am well within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned—put together—have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that one, solitary life. (Geisler, 324)
- iv. If there was no resurrection how could his life have this kind of impact???

b. Still skeptical?

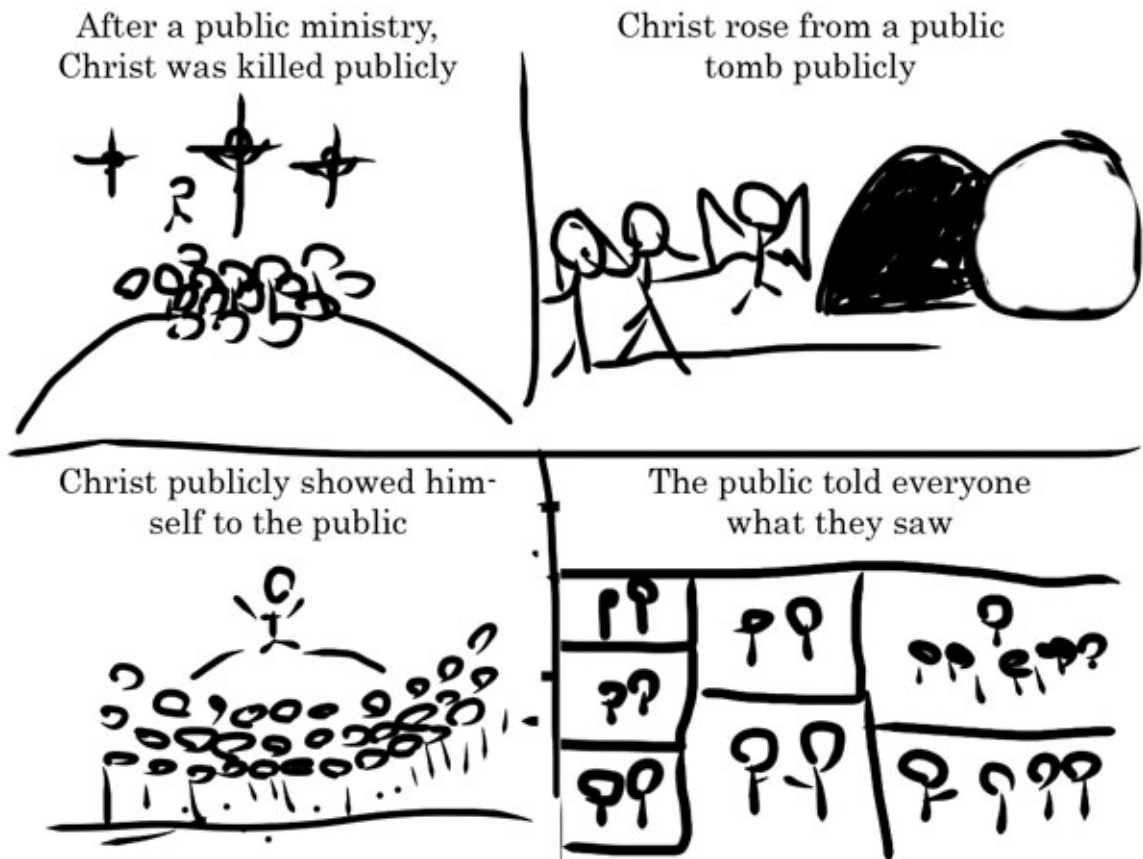
- i. "I was a committed atheist when I first heard a pastor preach a sermon that described the resurrection of Jesus. This pastor seemed to actually believe Jesus rose from the dead and was still alive today. I assumed it was just another example of "blind faith"; another well-intentioned church leader believing something for which he had no supporting evidence. Worse yet, I suspected he possessed an "unreasonable faith" and trusted something in spite of the evidence. I was familiar with the rules of evidence and the process by which we can determine the truth about past events. As a detective, I was doing this for a living. I decided to investigate the resurrection as I would any unsolved case from the distant past. My journey led me out of atheism to the truth of Christianity. As I applied my skills as a detective, I became more convinced that the New Testament gospel accounts reliably describe the life, ministry, crucifixion, and resurrection of Jesus." (Wallace, J. Warner. *Alive: A Cold-Case Approach to the Resurrection* (p. 4). David C Cook. Kindle Edition)

c. Application for the Christian

- i. Incredible hope
 - ii. Since Christ rose from the grave your sins will be forgiven.
 - iii. Since Christ rose from the grave your body will rise from the grave.
 - iv. Since Christ rose from the grave you will have power to live a life that is pleasing to God.
- d. Application for the skeptic
- i. I would encourage you to look into the claims of Jesus Christ.
 - ii. Christianity is a religion based on historical facts.
 - iii. Check out these facts.
 - iv. One thing you cannot do is ignore the claims of Christianity.
 - v. If Christ rose and you ignore him, you will spend all eternity in hell.
 - vi. If Christ rose and you embrace him, you will spend all eternity in heaven.
 - vii. Apathy is not an option. Don't think I will investigate that at some point but not now.
 - viii. Lets pray...

Author	Date Written	Earliest Copy	Time Span between original & copy	Number of Copies	Accuracy of Copies
Plato	427-347 B.C.	900 A.D.	1200 yrs	7	----
Demosthenes	4th Cent. B.C.	1100 A.D.	800 yrs	8	----
Herodotus	480-425 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300 yrs	8	----
Thucydides	460-400 B.C.	900 A.D.	1300 yrs	8	----
Euripides	480-406 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1300 yrs	9	----
Caesar	100-44 B.C.	900 A.D.	1000	10	----
Livy	59 BC-AD 17	----	???	20	----
Tacitus	circa 100 A.D.	1100 A.D.	1000 yrs	20	----
Aristotle	384-322 B.C.	1100 A.D.	1400	49	----
Sophocles	496-406 B.C.	1000 A.D.	1400 yrs	193	----
Homer (Iliad)	900 B.C.	400 B.C.	500 yrs	643	95%
New Testament	50-100 A.D.	130 A.D.	less than 100 yrs	5600	99.5%

How Christianity Started



www.credohouse.org

How Other Religions Started

Private dream about God



Private angelic encounter about God



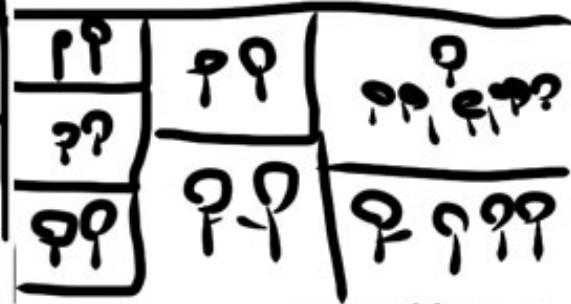
OR

OR

Private idea about God



One person told everyone what he saw



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