

THE REAL JESUS
A New Word – Part 1

ON TV: “Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong. They are weak but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. For the Bible tells me so.”

ON TV: Does knowing God and what He says really come down to *“The Bible tells me so?”*

ON TV: *“If the Bible says it, then I believe it and that settles it.”*

ON TV: *“The Bible said it, that settles it, whether you believe it or not.”*

ON TV: Christianity rises and falls on the identity of a single individual, **Jesus of Nazareth**.

ON TV: Is there a God, or is the Bible true?

ON TV: Is Christianity something worth taking seriously or worth considering and are Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John reliable accounts of actual events?

ON TV/OUTLINE:

#1: There was an **EVENT**, the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

#2: There was a **NEW MOVEMENT**, called “The Way”.

#3: Eventually this was called **THE CHURCH**.

#4: People who were involved in the life of Jesus **DOCUMENTED** the events for us.

#5: Three hundred plus years later, the **FIRST BIBLE WAS ASSEMBLED**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us...” Luke 1:1*

ON TV: Do you know how many years it will take to write down an account of your life or my life?

ON TV: **Not many**

ON TV: Do you know how many detailed narrative accounts we have of ancient peasants, crucified criminals, or first century rabbis?

ON TV: **NONE**

ON TV: Why would Luke bother?

ON TV: Because something **extraordinary** happened.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“I Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were **eyewitnesses** and servants of **the word**. 3 Therefore, since I myself have **carefully investigated everything** from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write and orderly account for you...” Luke 1:1-3a*

ON TV: Luke is **not** writing the Bible.

ON TV: Luke’s account of the life of Jesus was included in the Bible because Luke’s account **was already considered reliable when it was written**.

ON TV: Do we put things in a safe to make them valuable, or do we put things in a safe because they were already valuable?

ON TV: Is Luke lying?

ON TV: Either Luke carefully investigated everything from the beginning, or he didn't.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “3 Therefore, since I myself have *carefully investigated everything* from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an *orderly account* for you most excellent Theophilus, 4 so that you may know the *certainty* of the things you have been taught.” Luke 1:3-4

ON TV: Because their faith would be anchored to **an event** and ultimately to **a person**.

ON TV: “We have been offered the mirage that we can have community without **commitment**, faith without **discipleship**, the Kingdom without the **King**.” --Mark Sayers