

The Resurrection of Jesus & the Innumerable Witnesses

What type of evidence or proof best supports the truth-Christ died for your sins and rose from the dead?

Today we reveal many proofs (authentication of ancient literature and many witness) that Jesus is the resurrected Savior and desires to continually reveal Himself to you.

Three tests for the authentication of ancient literature:

Bibliographical test- Are the existing copies of the document reliable reproductions of the original?

- Today there are many more ancient copies of the Biblical manuscripts than any other ancient literature, i.e. Homer, Plato, etc.
- There are more manuscripts copied with greater accuracy and earlier dating than for any secular classic from antiquity.

Internal test - Is there internal consistency and historicity?

- The Bible meets this test very well.
- In fact, no real contradictions have ever been proven and apparent discrepancies are expected in independent reliable testimony.

External test - Is the document corroborated by outside sources?

- 1,000's of extra-biblical documents from the first three centuries both from the church fathers (Clement, Irenaeus, Origen, Augustine, etc.) and secular historians (Josephus, Philo, etc.)
- The appearance of Jesus to Peter.
1 Cor. 15:5; Luke 24:34

"Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days." Gal. 1:18

Luke 24:34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!"

- The appearance of Jesus to the Twelve.
Luke 24:36-42; John 20:19-20
- The appearance of Jesus to over five hundred brethren at once.
- Jesus appears to James.
Mark 3:21, 31-35; John 7: 1-10; Acts 1:14; Gal. 1:19, 2:1-10; Acts 15:1-20
- On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.
Acts 21:18
- Jesus appears to all the apostles.
1 Cor. 15:5; Luke 24:36-43; John 20:19-20
- Jesus appears to Paul.
Acts 9:1-9; Acts 22:1-21; Acts 26:12-18

"And those who were with me indeed saw the light and were afraid, but they did not hear the voice of Him who spoke to me. Acts 22:9

- Jesus appears to other women.
Luke 24:1-11

In closing...

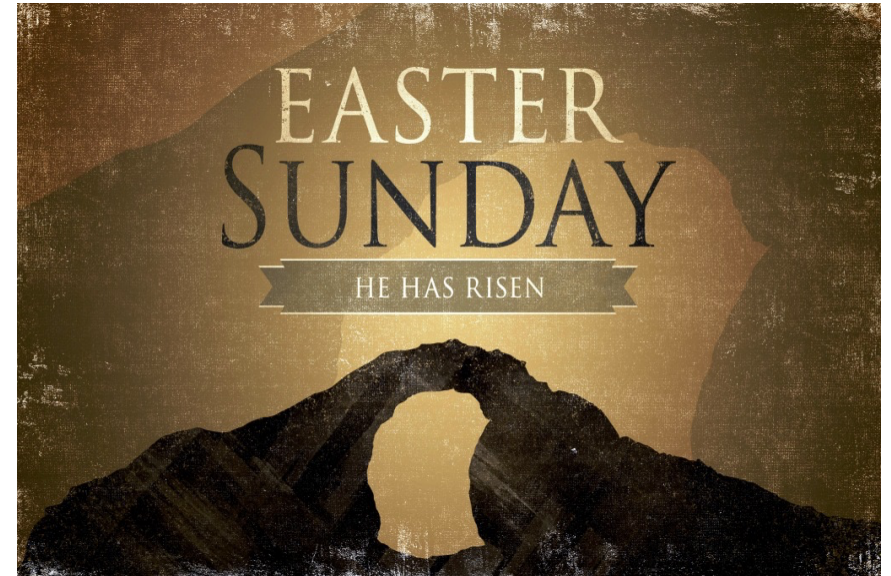
From testimony of Peter, the Twelve, 500 brethren, James, Paul, the women; 2000 years of changed lives, Mike Macintosh, Chuck Colson and those here; Jesus remains alive and invites you into a relationship.

Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you." 37 But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. 38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." 40 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. 41 But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here?" 42 So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb.

Luke 24:36-42

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

John 20:19-20



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