

Against All Odds He Rose from the Grave

What are the Odds? 1 in 10^{17} = 1 in 100,000,000,000,000,000

Isaiah 53:10 (TLB)–

But it was the Lord's good plan to bruise him and fill him with grief.

However, when his soul has been made an offering for sin, then he shall have a multitude of children, many heirs.

He shall live again, and God's program shall prosper in his hands.

What Happened on Easter:

1. Just before dawn, the women went to the tomb to finish dressing Jesus' body.

Luke 24:1-12 (NIV) On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: 'The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.' " Then they remembered his words. When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the

others with them who told this to the apostles. But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense. Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

2. While on the way, there was an earthquake.

Mt. 28:2 (NIV) There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it.

3. Angels announced that Jesus was risen.

Lk. 24:4 (NIV) While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them.

Jn. 20:12 (NIV) and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot.

4. The women reported the news to the Disciples.

Lk. 24:9-10 (NIV) When they came back from the tomb, they told all these things to the Eleven and to all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the others with them who told this to the apostles.

5. On the way to report, they encountered Jesus in the flesh.

Mt. 28:9-10 (NIV) Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

6. The Disciples didn't believe their report. Lk. 24:11 (NIV) But they did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense.

7. Peter and John investigated the tomb for themselves. Lk. 24:12(NIV) Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened.

8. Jesus revealed Himself to two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

Lk. 24:30-31 (NIV) When he was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.

9. Jesus brought peace to the disciples
Luke 24:36 (NIV) While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

10. Jesus showed them His wounds.

Luke 24:40(NIV) When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

11. Jesus explained the Scriptures to them.

Luke 24:45-46 (NIV) Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, this is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day

12. Jesus walked through the wall to get to them.

John 20:19 (NIV) On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

13. The Disciples rejoiced and believed.

John 20:20(NIV) After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

14. Jesus gave them the Holy Spirit and authority.

John 20:22 (NIV) And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.