

ROCKS DON'T MOVE.

(UNTIL THEY DO)

Let's Talk

Last week we examined the historical evidence of Jesus, and were asked the question, 'What is the difference between science and history?' How would you respond to this in your own words?

Let's Study

'The historicity of the Christian faith and the historicity of Jesus Christ are undeniable' – Pastor Jon.

- 1. Read Matthew 4:4, Matthew 5:17-19, John 10:35-38, Revelation 22:18-19.
 - Can the Bible be trusted as a historical document? Is it also deeper than that?
 - How do these verses relate to 'faith as informed trust'?
- 2. What are some of the theories people have come up with over time to discount the resurrection?
 - Based on what was discussed in the sermon, how would you respond to some of these theories?
- 3. Read Acts 17:32. How did those in this pagan land respond when they heard about the resurrection of the dead?
 - Was the idea of physical resurrection a prevalent one in Jesus' time? Did any other religions believe in resurrection?
 - What about older faiths, like the Egyptians or Macedonians; do they talk about physical resurrection from the dead?
- 4. Read Matthew 27:62-66 and John 20:5-7. Based on this verse and Pastor Jon's explanation, how would you respond to the skeptic's argument: 'The disciples or someone else stole the body.'
- 5. Why do you think the group hallucination theory or the 'It was all made up' idea don't check out?

Let's Apply

'If Jesus isn't raised from the dead, then all this is irrelevant. But if there is a possibility at all that He is, then everything that the human condition asks and sings about and writes poems about and wants and desires is answered. It is worth your seven days of reading the eye witness accounts and testimonials and the conversations between Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.' – Pastor Jon



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Let's Apply (continued)

Over the next week, would you:

- Read through the gospels? Whether you have never done it before or you have read them a hundred times.
- Sit on your bed and speak out loud to him? If this is new to you, you can simply say, 'Jesus, if You're
 alive, and this is not smoke and mirrors but this is real, then You have to show up and do something in
 me that I cannot do myself.'

"You might identify with the reaction of James, John, Thomas, Peter, or the women, but here's the amazing thing: every character encounters Jesus, and Jesus will encounter you — if you'll ask him to." — Pastor Jon

'If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.' (Romans 10:9)

Let's Pray

Lord,

Thank You for skeptics and seekers; we pray You will become very close and answer questions and bring people near to Your heart.

As Christians, we say thank You Jesus that You are alive, and that You are Hope, for if You are raised from the dead then we are too.

All glory to God in heaven, Who has made us right, and will ever give us eternal life.

Amen.

Questions? email sermonquestions@sanctuschurch.com

