

*The Cast of Characters in the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus*  
***The Soldiers: “So They Took The Money”***

Matthew 28:11-15  
(Page 835 in Chair Bible)  
The Lord’s Day Morning  
March 29, 2015  
Palm Sunday

It is established historical fact that the earliest followers of Jesus Christ claimed to see an empty tomb and a risen Jesus. There are three possible explanations for this claim:

1. The authorities took the body and the disciples lied about seeing the risen Jesus.

1. Problem: Why did the authorities not \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and kill the movement?

2. Problem: Why did the disciples fabricate a story making  
\_\_\_\_\_ eyewitnesses?

2. The disciples took the body and lied about seeing the risen Jesus.

1. Problem: See problem #2 above.

2. Problem: Why did the disciples invent a story that made  
\_\_\_\_\_?

3. Problem: Why did the disciples suddenly turn from  
\_\_\_\_\_?

4. Problem: Why did professional Roman soldiers commit  
\_\_\_\_\_?

5. Problem: Why did the disciples suffer and die for  
\_\_\_\_\_?

3. The disciples saw an empty tomb and a risen Jesus.

1. Problem: An anti-supernatural \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Problem: The stunning \_\_\_\_\_.