THE PEOPLE vs. JESUS OF NAZARETH CASE

QUESTION #1

Was Jesus a Real Historical Person?

Key Evidence

Evidence Presented	Notes
Non-Christian historical writers mention Jesus	
Jesus was crucified under Pontius Pilate	
Christianity began immediately after His death	
Other observations	

Important Exhibits

- Exhibit A: Josephus
- Exhibit B: Tacitus
- Exhibit C: The Talmud

My Verdict

☐ YES, Jesus was a real historical person

☐ NO, the evidence is insufficient

Why?

CASE QUESTION #2

Did Jesus Claim to Be God?

Key Evidence

Evidence Presented	Notes
"Before Abraham was, I AM"	
"I and the Father are One"	
Jesus forgave sins	
Jesus accepted worship	
Jesus claimed authority to judge the world	
Jesus identified Himself as the Son of Man	

Important Exhibit

- Exhibit A: Pliny the Younger's testimony that early Christians worshiped Christ "as a god."

My Verdict

☐ YES, Jesus claimed to be God

☐ NO, Jesus never made that claim

☐ UNSURE

Why?

CASE QUESTION #3

Did Jesus Rise from the Dead?

Key Evidence

Evidence Presented	Notes
Jesus died by crucifixion	
The tomb was empty	
Eyewitness appearances	
Over 500 witnesses	
Changed disciples	
James' conversion	
Paul's conversion	
Christianity began in Jerusalem	
Old Testament prophecy	

Exhibits

□ Exhibit A: Crucifixion
□ Exhibit B: Empty Tomb
□ Exhibit C: Eyewitness Claims
□ Exhibit D: Transformed Lives
□ Exhibit E: Church Began in Jerusalem
□ Exhibit F: Prophecy

Alternative Explanations Considered

Theory	Does it explain all the evidence?
Swoon Theory	☐ Yes ☐ No
Stolen Body Theory	☐ Yes ☐ No
Hallucination Theory	☐ Yes ☐ No
Legend Theory	☐ Yes ☐ No
Resurrection	☐ Yes ☐ No

My Verdict

☐ YES, Jesus rose from the dead
☐ NO, another explanation is better
☐ UNSURE

Why?

FINAL JURY DELIBERATION

Based on the evidence presented today: (check all that apply)

☐ Jesus existed.

☐ Jesus claimed to be God.

☐ Jesus rose from the dead.

Therefore:

☐ Jesus is who He claimed to be.

☐ More investigation is needed.

☐ I am not convinced.

PERSONAL VERDICT

Jesus asked: **"But what about you? Who do you say that I am?" (Matthew 16:15)**

After considering the evidence, my response is:

Next Step

☐ I want to learn more.

☐ I have questions.

☐ I believe Jesus is Lord.

☐ I want to talk with someone about faith.