HOW CAN I BELIEVE THAT THE NEW TESTAMENT TELLS THE REAL STORY ABOUT JESUS? Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, ² just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word. ³ With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴ so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

1. The New Testament records the events of REAL PEOPLE and REAL PLACES.

When Jesus had finished saying all this to the people who were listening, he entered Capernaum. ² There a centurion's servant, whom his master valued highly, was sick and about to die. ³ The centurion heard of Jesus and sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴ When they came to Jesus, they pleaded earnestly with him, "This man deserves to have you do this, ⁵ because he loves our nation and has built our synagogue."

Luke 7:1-5 (NIV)

- 2. There are more copies of the New Testament than any other <u>ANCIENT DOCUMENT</u> and those copies are close to the <u>ORIGINALS</u>.
- 3. The TOMB was EMPTY.

The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶ He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."

Matthew 28:5-6 (NIV)

4. The Disciples <u>DIED</u> for their <u>FAITH</u>.

For I am already being poured out like a drink offering, and the time for my departure is near. ⁷ I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

2 Timothy 4:6-8 (NIV)

5. Lives are still **BEING CHANGED** by Jesus.