



## January 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> | Craig Smith: The Problem of God & the Bible

1. What is one of the biggest questions or an uncertainty you have about the reliability of the Bible?
2. Share with your group a time where you had a question about something in the Bible and what you did to seek an answer?

Here is a recap of some sources from outside the Bible that support the Bible's account of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus:

- **Josephus' *Antiquities* (early 2nd century A.D.) Book 18, Ch. 3, part 3 :** *Now there arose at this time a source of further trouble in one Jesus, a wise man who performed surprising works, a teacher of men who gladly welcome strange things. He led away many Jews, and also many of the Gentiles. He was the so-called Christ. When Pilate, acting on information supplied by the chief men around us, condemned him to the cross...*
- **Josephus' *Antiquities* (early 2nd century A.D.), book 20, Ch. 9, part 1:** *...so he assembled the Sanhedrin of judges, and brought before them the brother of Jesus, who was called Christ, whose name was James...*
- **Sanhedrin 43a:** *"On the eve of Passover they hung Jeshu [the Nazarene]. And the crier went forth before him...saying...he hath practiced magic and deceived and led Israel astray.*
- **Tacitus (AD 55-117), *Annals*, book XV:** *Christus...suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus, and a most mischievous superstition...broke out not only in Judaea, the first source of the evil, but even in Rome...*

3. Was there one of these sources that especially surprised you to learn about?

***The Bible is proven reliable when it comes to the most important part of the Christian faith: the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.***

4. Who is someone in your life you can share this content with?
5. What questions do you still have when it comes to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus? What is one way you will seek more information on the evidence?