

Jesus Christ is Risen! He is Risen INDEED!

Our message this week is going to break away from Galatians a bit to live in the dawn of our Lords rising!

1 Survey shows only 2% of Adults say Resurrection Sunday is the most important holyday of their faith, what does this say?

Just how important is "Passion week" to our faith?

Can anyone truly worship Resurrection Sunday without thoughtful reflection of passion week and "Good Friday"?

What are at least 5 powerful statements a risen Savior establishes?

In a 2022 study, only 33% of teens believe Jesus rose from the dead, why?

Do Christians have "blind" faith?

How would you persuade others that Jesus rose from the dead and all that it means, to post Christian America?

There are so many stunning and surreal aspects of Passion week, which ones are your favorite?

How many times did people encounter our risen Savior?



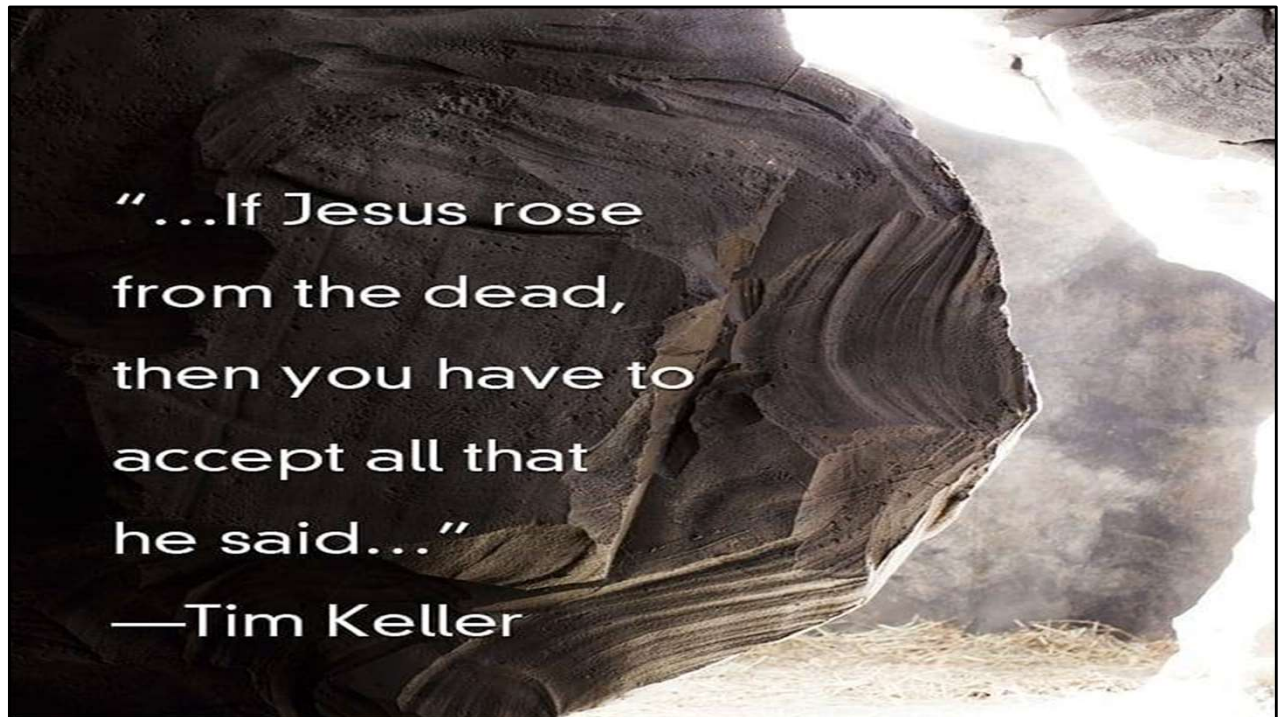
Mat 28:1-8, 11 Now **after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first [day] of the week**, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. 2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for **an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone, and sat upon it.** 3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. 4 **The guards shook from fear of him and became like dead men.** 5 And the angel said to the women, "**Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified.** 6 **"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.** 7 **"And go quickly and tell** His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see Him; behold, I have told you." 8 And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to report to His disciples. ... 11 Now while they were on their way, some of the [men from the] guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened.

He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. 7 "And go quickly and tell

after the Sabbath, The Passing of the old covenant, Christ fulfilled the law **as it began to dawn** John is about darkness and Light!, Jesus is the Light of the

world a new dawn, Morningstar, Weep for night but Joy in morning. Mary was forlorn, broken and Earths saddest day and gladdest day were just 3 days apart **toward the first [day] of the week** a new covenant! Sunday!

He is not here, Death could NOT Hold Him, He burst through gates of Hell!
for He has risen, Power over sin, satan and death
just as He said. You can take Jesus at His word! His word spoke all into existence...
Come, see the place where He was lying. Faith is in what we don't see! And We will soon see all the bodies/graves of mere men!
7 "And go quickly and tell We cant keep this to ourselves!



1 Survey shows only 2% of Adults say Resurrection Sunday is the most important holyday of their faith, what does this say?

In a 2022 study, only 33% of teens believe Jesus rose from the dead, why?

According to Barna's research,

just 42% of Americans said that the meaning of Easter was the resurrection of Jesus or that it signifies Christ's death and return to life.

Even more, **only one out of every 50 adults (2%) said that they would describe Easter as the most important holiday of their faith**

"If Jesus rose from the dead, then you have to accept all that he said; if he didn't rise from the dead, then why worry about any of what he said? The issue on which everything hangs is not whether or not you like his teaching but whether or not he rose from the dead." Keller

One in four people who claim to be Christians in the U.K. disavows the bodily resurrection of Jesus completely. The numbers in the U.S. are equally breathtaking. According to the biennial State of Theology research study published by Lifeway Research, **only 47% of American adults "strongly agree" the**

physical, bodily resurrection of Jesus was an actual historical event. In a 2022 global data point, the Barna Research Group revealed **only 33% of teenagers believe Jesus rose from the dead**. **A staggering 300 verses in the New Testament address the resurrection across its 260 chapters. Every sermon in the book of Acts focused on the resurrection of Jesus. More than 20 times**, Scripture promises that the Christian's future bodily resurrection is linked to the historical fact of Jesus' resurrection (John 14:19).

<https://research.lifeway.com/2024/02/22/why-youre-still-not-teaching-enough-about-jesus-resurrection/> Feb 22, 2024

[**1Co 15:12-19** ESV] 12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 **And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.** 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. 17 **And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.** 18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 **If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.**

[1Co 15:12-19 NASB20] 12 Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? 13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised; 14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain, your faith also is in vain. 15 Moreover, we are even found [to be] false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. 16 For if the dead are not raised, then not even Christ has been raised; 17 and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins. 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If we have hoped in Christ only in this life, we are of all people most to be pitied.

1. What does the Resurrection mean?

- Did Jesus rise from the Dead, or not?
- 1 Corinthians 15
- Who has such power?! Omnipotence, Omniscience ...
- He killed death, conquered Satan and Paid for our sins!
- The Prince of Peace is now King of Kings!
Bow the knee!

1. Did Jesus rise from the Dead, or not?

He is Liar or Lord?

Defeated Satan, Sin and Death!

Paid for, covered our Sins! Gods wrath is satisfied, **We are FORGIVEN!!!**

Jesus raised

1. Lk.7 Widow of Nain's son
2. Mk.5:35-43 Jairus daughter
3. Jn.11:39-44 Lazarus
4. Mt.27:52-53 Many Saints
5. Himself 1Cor.15,

[Jhn 10:18 NASB20] 18 "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it back. This commandment I received from My Father."

Jn.11:25 Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; the one who believes in Me will live, even if he dies,

[Jhn 2:19, 21 NASB20] 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ... 21 But He was speaking about the temple of His body.

[Mat 16:19 NASB20] 19 "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and

whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

[Rev 1:18 NASB20] 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

Jesus' resurrection Means:

God/Jesus Loves me unimaginably more than I deserve or can conceive

The payment for my sins was accepted and sufficient

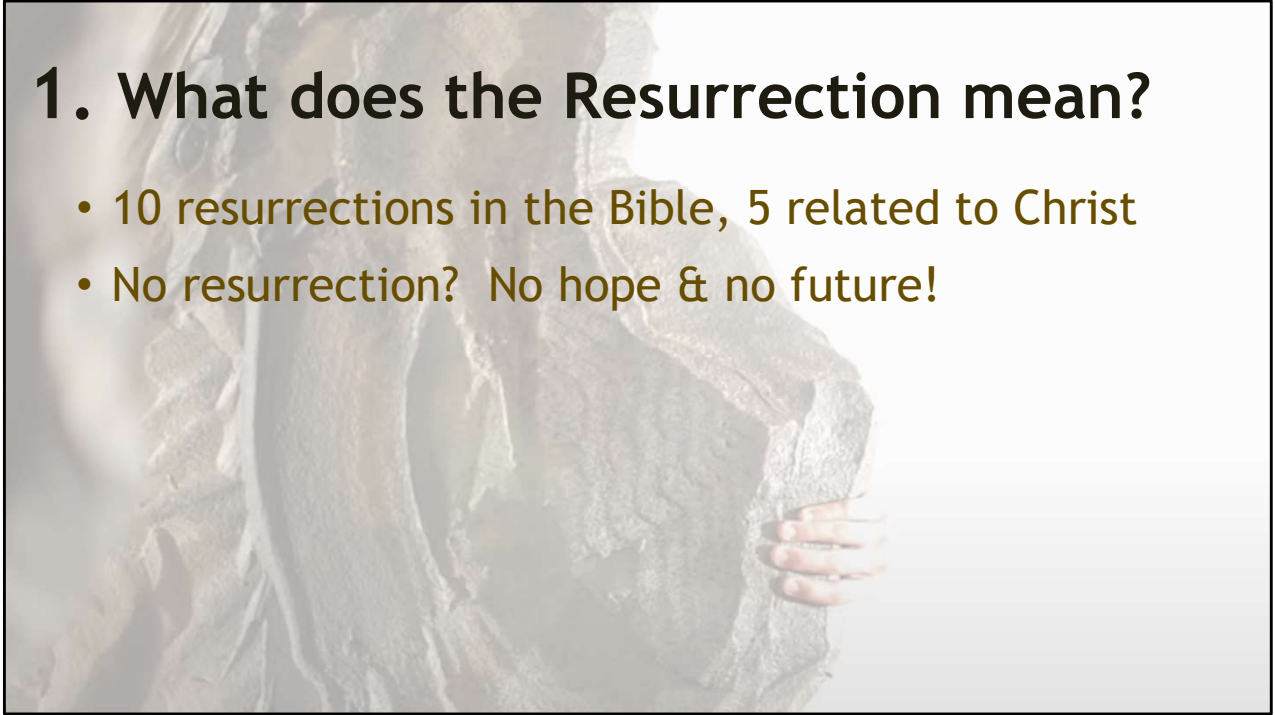
He alone knew and welcomed His human sacrifice, he predicted it! No less than 3 times

He has ALL power Mt.28

[Mat 28:18-20 NASB20] 18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to follow all that I commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

1. What does the Resurrection mean?

- 10 resurrections in the Bible, 5 related to Christ
- No resurrection? No hope & no future!



Confucius' Tomb



551 - 479 BC

Qufu, East China

**4.4 Million
Visitors per year**

**6 Million
Followers**

in Confucius' hometown Qufu East China

Qufu has adopted comparisons to Jerusalem and Mecca and calls itself “The Holy City of the Orient.” Last year, it received 4.4 million visitors, surpassing the number of people who visited Israel.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2014/01/13/confucius-comes-hom>

Buddhism
Pilgrimage Tour

Home Festivals

Vaishali - The Holy Site of Buddha's Last Sermon

566 - 486 BC

India

375+ Million

<https://www.pbs.org/wnet/secrets/bones-of-the-buddha-about-this-episode/1023/>

The Buddha (also called Siddhartha Gautama or Shakyamuni)

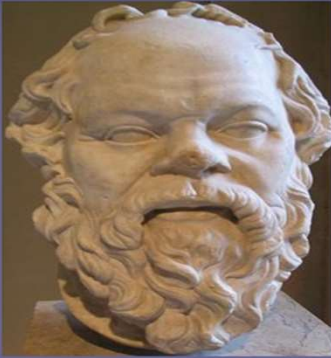
<https://www.thoughtco.com/bones-of-buddha-secrets-of-dead-171317>

the legends report that **his body was cremated and his ashes were divided into eight parts**. The parts were distributed to eight communities of his followers. One of those parts was said to have been buried in his family's burial plot, in the Sakyan state capital city of Kapilavastu.

About 250 years after the Buddha's death, the Mauryan king [Asoka the Great](#) (304–232 BCE) converted to Buddhism and **built many monuments called stupas or topes all over his realm—reportedly there were 84,000 of them**. At the base of each, he enshrined splinters of relics taken from the original eight parts. When those relics became unavailable, Asoka buried manuscripts of sutras instead. Almost every Buddhist monastery has a stupa in its precinct.

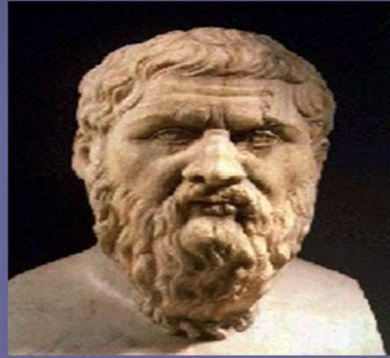
<https://www.originalbuddhas.com/blog/four-holy-buddhist-pilgrimages>

The Three Most Famous Philosophers



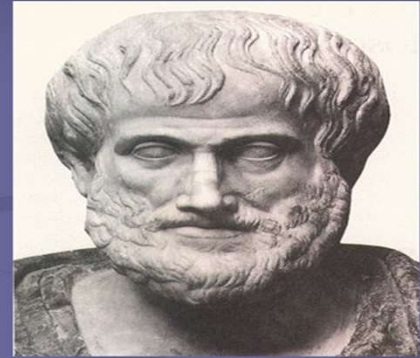
Socrates

470 - 399 Athens



Plato

427 - 348?



Aristotle

384 - 322 BC

Socrates 470 BC - 399

Plato 427-348

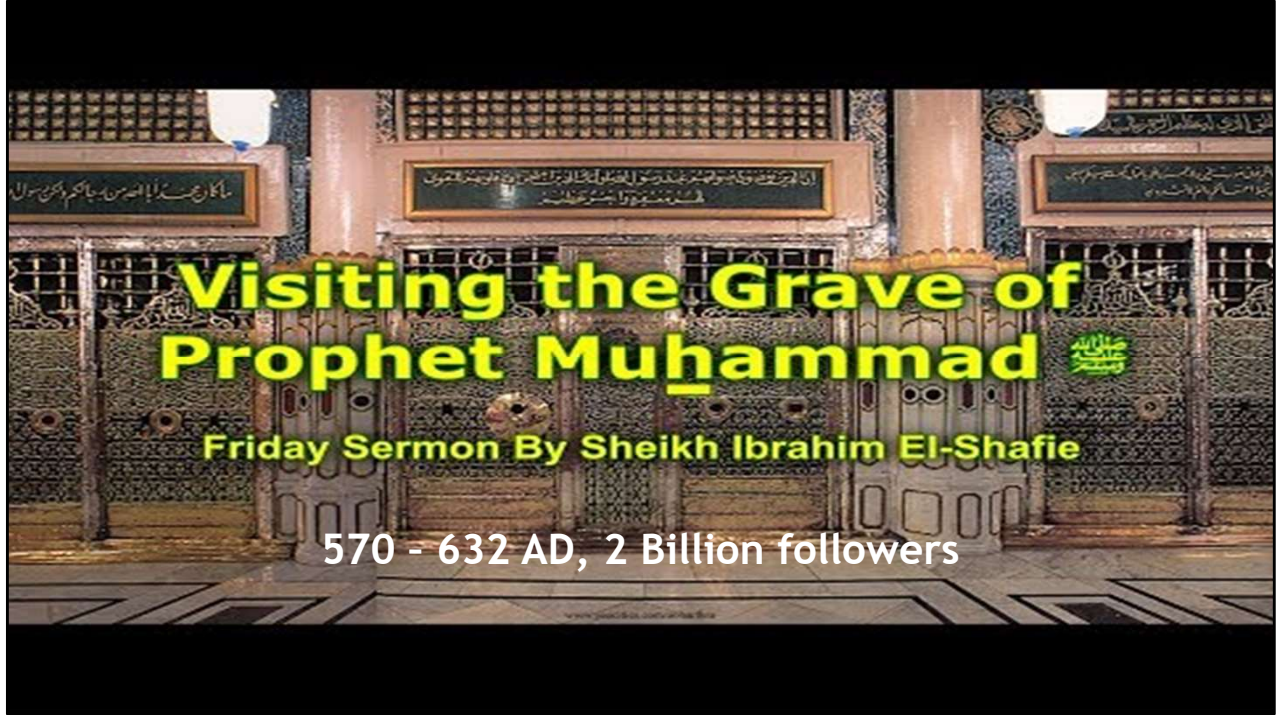
Aristotle 384-322 BC teacher of Alex the great

Alexander the Great!

Western Civilization!

Romans borrowed MUCH of their influence

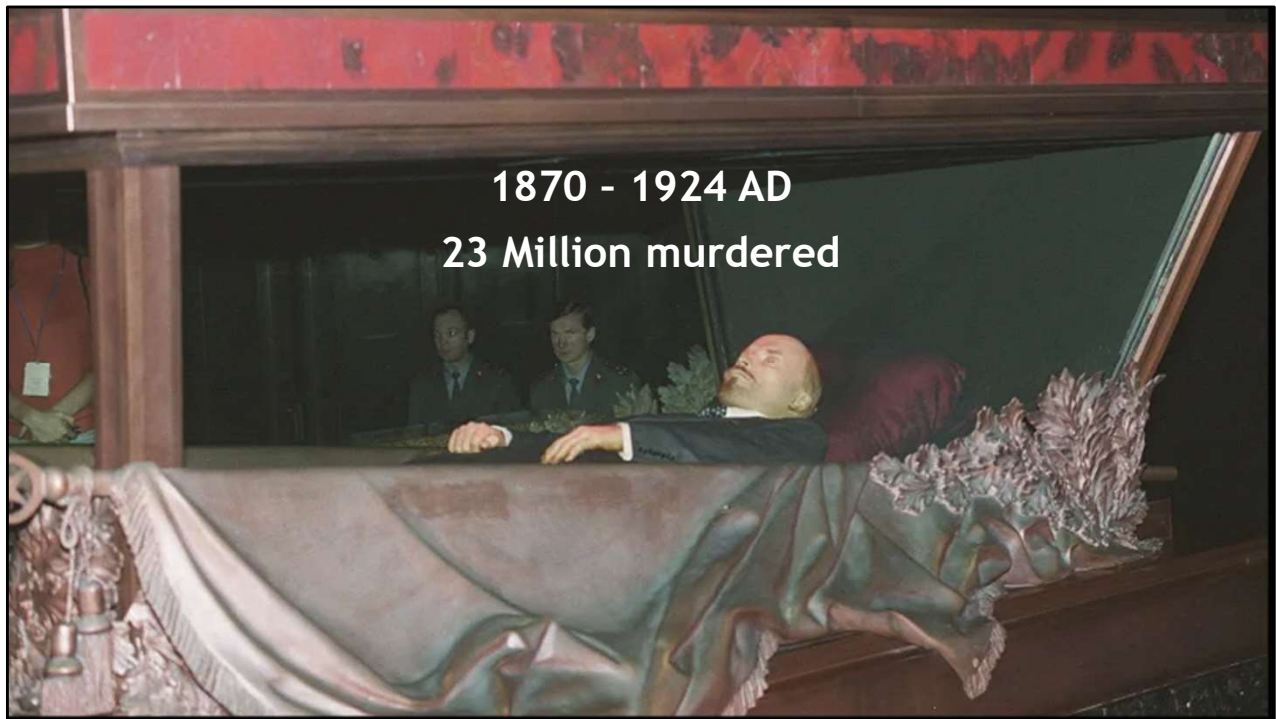
[1Co 1:22-27, 31 ESV] 22 For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23 but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25 For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ... 31 so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."



Muhammad

570 AD – 632

As of 2020, 1.8 billion or more than 25% of the world population



Vladimir Lenin! Red Terror!

1870-1924

Murdered 61million people?

<https://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/COM.ART.HTM>

144 Million live in Russia now.

But Stalin, once a divinity school student, About 450,000 people file past Lenin's corpse per year,

Karl Marx

Stalin



mao zedong

You can go and see all their bodies or toms!
But Jesus' Tomb is Empty! As HE Said!

1.4 Billion in China alone

<https://www.heritage.org/asia/commentary/the-legacy-mao-zedong-mass-murder>

B.C.
Before
Christ

A.D.
After
Death
(Risen)

History

YOU
are at a
CROSS
road!

A New
Covenant

**HE IS NOT HERE, FOR HE HAS
RISEN, AS HE SAID. COME, SEE
THE PLACE WHERE HE LAY.**

MATTHEW 28:6

[Mat 28:6 NASB20] 6 "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.

Joseph Smith
Karl Marx
Buddha
Sigmund Freud
Charles Darwin
Sun Myung Moon
Dalai Lama
Confucius
Maharishi Yogi
Mohammad

The Resurrection Appearances in Order

Order	Appearance	Location	Did Jesus Speak?	Date and Time	References
1.	Mary Magdalene crying by the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mk 16:9-11; Jn 20:11-18
2.	The other women returning from the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mt 28:8-10
3.	Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus	Near Emmaus	Yes	Afternoon on Sunday	Mk 16:12-13; Lk 24:13-32
4.	Peter in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	N/A	Late afternoon on Sunday	Lk 24:33-35; 1 Cor 15:5a
5.	To the "11" disciples and others in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Lk 24:36-49
6.	To 10 disciples without Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Jn 20:19-25
7.	To the 11 disciples with Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Monday (8 days later)	Mk 16:14; Jn 20:26-29
8.	To 7 disciples by the Lake of Galilee	Galilee	Yes	A few weeks later?	Jn 21:1-25
9.	To 11 disciples on a Mountain (Great Commission)	Galilee	Yes	Near the end of the 40 days	Mt 28:16-20; Mk 16:15-18; 1 Cor 15:5b
10.	To 500 people at once	Galilee?	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:6
11.	To James	Jerusalem?	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:7a
12.	To the 11 disciples at Jesus' Ascension	Bethany	Yes	40 th Day	Mk 16:19; Lk 24:50-52; Acts 1:4-11; 1 Cor 15:7b
13.	To Paul on the road to Damascus	Near Damascus	Yes	About two years later	Acts 9:3-5; 22:7-8; 26:14-16; 1 Cor 15:8

Christ Resurrected, about 12 recorded appearances in 40 days not counting over 500 Numerous witnesses! What about Roman soldiers paid off?

Early Sunday morning (April 9) to Mary Magdalene near the sepulchre at Jerusalem (Mark 16:9, John 20:11-18)

To the women returning from the sepulchre (Matthew 28:9-10)

To Peter (Cephas) near Jerusalem later that day (Luke 24:34, 1Corinthians 15:5)

To two disciples going to Emmaus that day (Mark 16:12, Luke 24:13-31)

That evening at Jerusalem to the apostles except Thomas (Mark 16:14, John 20:19-25)

Sunday evening (April 16) at Jerusalem to all the apostles especially Thomas (John 20:26-29)

End of April to seven disciples fishing on Sea of Galilee (John 21:1-13)

To eleven disciples on a mountain in Galilee (Matthew 28:16-18)

Over 500 disciples at once --location uncertain (1Corinthians 15:6)

To James --location uncertain (1Corinthians 15:7)

To the apostles (and probably others) during forty days prior to his ascension (Acts 1:2-3)

At the Mount of Olives near Bethany at his ascension (Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1:6-12)

After his ascension, to Stephen the martyr (Acts 7:55-56)

To Saul on road to Damascus (Acts 9:3-6, 1Corinthians 15:8-9)

To John on the island of Patmos (Revelation 1:9-19)

[Luk 24:18-25 NASB20] 18 One [of them,] named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You [possibly] the only one living near Jerusalem who does not know about the things that happened here in these days?" 19 And He said to them, "What sort of things?" And they said to Him, "Those about Jesus the Nazarene, who proved to be a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, 20 and how the chief priests and our rulers handed Him over to be sentenced to death, and crucified Him. 21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is [now] the third day since these things happened. 22 "But also some women among us left us bewildered. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, 23 and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive. 24 "And [so] some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just exactly as the women also had said; but Him they did not see." 25 And [then] He said to them, "You foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!

2. Did Jesus claim to be God?

- A Virgin Birth! - Isaiah 9, Luke 1-2
- He forgave sin & miracles - Healed Lepers and the Paralyzed
- He asked who could find sin in Him? - John 8:46
- 7 “I AM” declarations - Exodus 3:14
-> John 6:35; 8:12, 10:7; 10:11; 11:25; 14:6; 15:1

? Some say he was merely a great preacher, a mere man! (Islam, Libs)

7 Credible external witnesses of Jesus' Innocence!

3x Jesus predicted His own death (by crucifixion, not beheading/sword, stoning, hanging, burning, mob...) and its timing, and at whose hands and that He would rise from the dead!

He also received Worship!

300 Prophecies, Over 30 fulfilled in 1 week as Jesus is crucified.

Pilate understood him to, King of the Jews!

His prophecy's, including His own death, burial and resurrection!

Grace:

[Mat 11:19 "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a heavy drinker, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' And [yet] wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

[Luk 7:34 NASB20] 34 "The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a heavy drinker, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'

Samaritan Woman, Sinful Adulterous woman, Matthew tax collector, lepers, Dying thief...

"You, a mere man, claim to be God" (John 10:33

"I and the Father are one," He was saying that He and the Father are of one nature and essence. John 8:58 is another example. Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth ... before Abraham was born, I am!"

[Jhn 8:46 NASB20] 46 **"Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?"**

[**Isa 9**:1-2, 4, 6-7 NASB20] 1 But there will be no [more] gloom for her who was in anguish. In earlier times He treated the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali with contempt, but later on He will make [it] glorious, by the way of the sea, on the other side of the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles. 2 The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them. ... 4 For You will break the yoke of their burden and the staff on their shoulders, The rod of their oppressor, as at the battle of Midian. ... 6 **For a Child will be born to us, a Son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.** 7 There will be no end to the increase of [His] government or of peace On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of armies will accomplish this.

3 Very direct passages also eliciting jews trying to Stone Him for Blasphemy!
Mar 14:61-64 But He kept silent and did not offer any answer. Again **the high priest was questioning Him, and said to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed [One?]"** 62 **And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of power, and coming with the clouds of heaven."** 63 **Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses?"** 64 **"You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him as deserving of death.**

Jhn 8:48-49, 51-52, 56-59 The Jews answered and said to Him, "Do we not rightly say that You are a Samaritan, and You have a demon?" 49 Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon; on the contrary, I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me. ... 51 "Truly, truly I say to you, **if anyone follows My word, he will never see death.**" 52 The Jews said to Him, **"Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets [as well;] and [yet] You say, 'If anyone follows My word, he will never taste of death.'** ... 56 "Your father Abraham was overjoyed that he would see My day, and he saw [it] and rejoiced." 57 So the **Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and You have seen Abraham?"** 58 **Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."** 59 **Therefore they picked up**

stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and left the temple [grounds.]

Jhn 10:25, 28, 30-33 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me. ... 28 and **I give them eternal life**, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand. ... 30 **"I and the Father are one."** 31 **The Jews picked up stones again to stone Him.** 32 **Jesus replied to them, "I showed you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you stoning Me?"** 33 **The Jews answered Him, "We are not stoning You for a good work, but for blasphemy; and because You, being a man, make Yourself [out to be] God."**

The "I Am" Statements of Jesus

- I am the bread of life. 6:35, 48, 51.
- I am the light of the world. 8:12; 9:5.
- I am the door of the sheep. 10:7, 9.
- I am the good shepherd. 10:11, 14.
- I am the resurrection and the life. 11:25.
- I am the way, the truth, and the life. 14:6.
- I am the true vine. 15:1
- Absolute "I am" statements 6:20; 8:24, 28, 58; 18:5

2. Did Jesus claim to be God?

- The Jews tried to kill Him 6-8x for blasphemy
- John 8, 10
- His Grace! A Friend to sinners
- His Authority/Power, even over Satan & Death!



ABOUT THIS TIME THERE LIVED JESUS,
A WISE MAN, IF INDEED ONE OUGHT
TO CALL HIM A MAN. FOR HE WROUGHT
SURPRISING FEATS. HE WAS THE CHRIST.
WHEN PILATE CONDEMNED HIM TO BE
CRUCIFIED, THOSE WHO HAD COME
TO LOVE HIM DID NOT GIVE UP THEIR
AFFECTION FOR HIM. ON THE THIRD
DAY HE APPEARED RESTORED TO LIFE
AND THE TRIBE OF CHRISTIANS HAS
NOT DISAPPEARED.

-JOSEPHUS

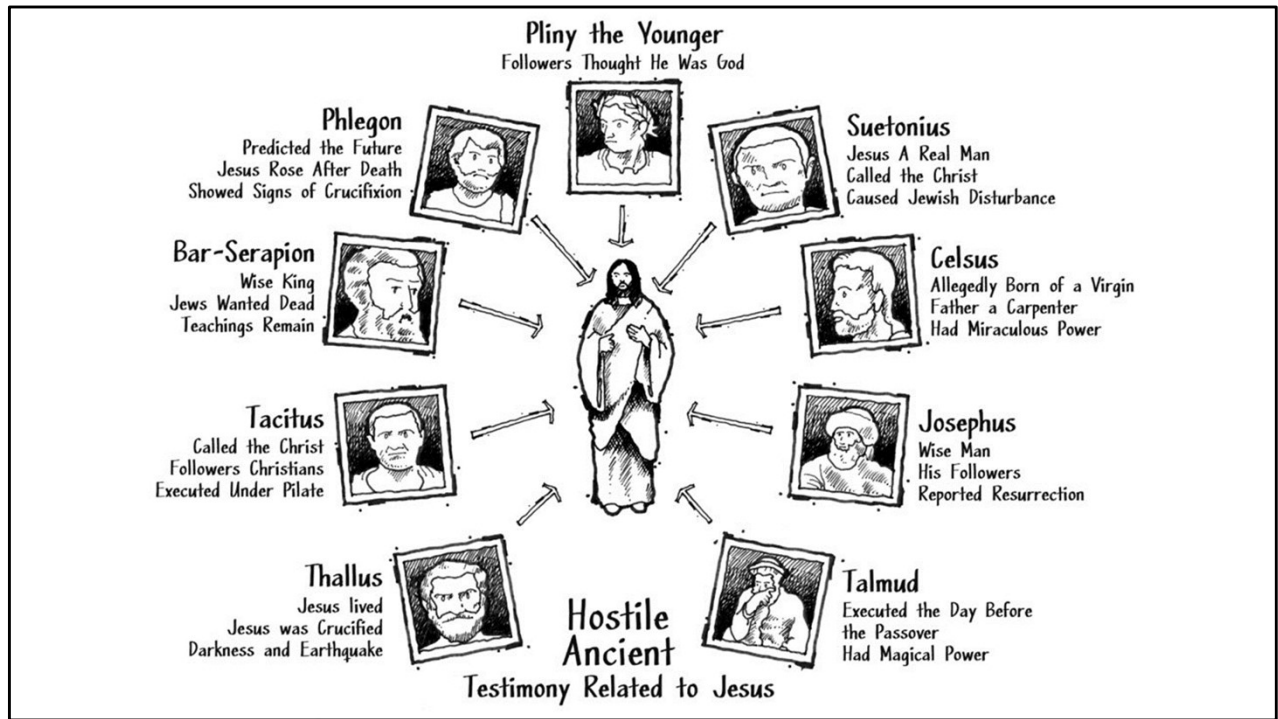
History.com The Bible Says Jesus Was Real. What Other Proof Exists?

Historian Flavius Josephus wrote one of the earliest non-biblical accounts of Jesus:

About this time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call him a man. For he ... wrought surprising feats.... He was the Christ. When Pilate ...condemned him to be crucified, those who had . . . come to love him did not give up their affection for him. On the third day he appeared ... restored to life.... And the tribe of Christians ... has ... not disappeared.[17]

Tacitus connects Jesus to his execution by Pontius Pilate

governor Pliny the Younger wrote to Emperor Trajan that early Christians would “sing hymns to Christ as to a god.”



Evidence that Demands a Verdict'

Written by a former Atheist! Josh MacDowell – More than a Carpenter

C.S. Lewis and many others!

3. What will it take for you to believe?

- Faith OR Science?! Gravity, Evolution, ET/UFO's, "Love"
- Judas betrayed Him, after 3+ years of Love with legs!
- 10 disciples deserted Him, then died for Him! (Thomas, Paul)

Will you bow before him IF I can present credible evidence? Can you live life without faith? (Science!) The evidence is an empty tomb? UFO's? 12 Resurrection Appearances!

We ALL believe something! Even Atheists!

Some believed the Baltimore Scott key bridge would support them last week!

An unidentified flying object (UFO), or unidentified anomalous phenomenon (UAP)

Even after ALL the Witnesses, Hostile and Friendly, Ever after all the other religions, even after 2000 yrs of History and resilient followers of Jesus, from ALL Over the world crossing every boundary and willing to die (as opposed to killing like Islam by the sword) Few of you will even bother to research this further!

[1Ti 6:20 KJV] 20 O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane [and] vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called:

What will it take for you to Surrender control of your life to the KING?
What will it take for you to Trust Him alone?

IF you yourself Saw Jesus in the flesh, would you dedicate yourself to Him? The Pharisees didn't!

Will you bow before him IF I can present credible evidence?

Can you live life without faith? (Science!) Where is the Proof for Evolution? Some say a Platypus is a descendent of Duck, Beaver, Otter and (Hippo) or manatee (sea Cow)?

The evidence is an empty tomb? UFO's? 12 Resurrection Appearances!

The platypus is among nature's most unlikely animals. In fact, the first scientists to examine a specimen believed they were the victims of a hoax. The animal is best described as a hodgepodge of more familiar species: the duck (bill and webbed feet), beaver (tail), and otter (body and fur).

Platypus | National Geographic

In fact, the first scientists to examine a specimen believed they were the victims of a hoax. A Mammal that lays eggs

Luk 16:19-31 "Now there was a rich man, and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, enjoying himself in splendor every day. 20 "And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores, 21 and longing to be fed from the [scraps] which fell from the rich man's table; not only [that,] the dogs also were coming and licking his sores. 22 "Now it happened that the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's arms; and the rich man also died and was buried. 23 "And in Hades he raised his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his arms. 24 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me and send Lazarus, so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame.' 25 "But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your life you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus bad things; but now he is being comforted here, and you are in agony. 26 'And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set, so that those who want to go over from here to you will not be able, nor will [any people] cross over from there to us.' 27 "And he said, 'Then I request of you, father, that you send him to my father's house-- 28 for I have five brothers--in order that he may warn them, so that they will not come to this place of torment as well.' 29 "But Abraham said, 'They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.' 30 "But he said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent!' 31 "But he said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.'"

Mat 28:11-15 Now while they were on their way, some of the [men from the] guard came into the city and reported to the chief priests all that had happened. 12 And when they had assembled with the elders and consulted together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, 13 and said, "You are to say, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him while we were asleep.' 14 "And if this comes to the governor's

ears, we will appease him and keep you out of trouble." 15 And they took the money and did as they had been instructed; and this story was widely spread among the Jews [and is] to this day.

The Jewish leaders, saw and talked with Jesus in person, couldn't defeat or contest His wisdom and yet even after He rose from the dead, refused to repent and conspired a story) paid off the Roman Soldiers! What more can be done than I have done?

[Heb 11:6 NASB20] 6 And without faith it is impossible to please [Him,] for the one who comes to God must believe that He exists, and [that] He proves to be One who rewards those who seek Him.

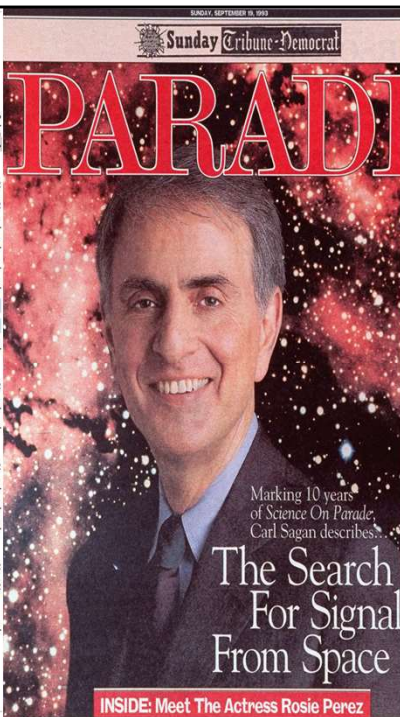
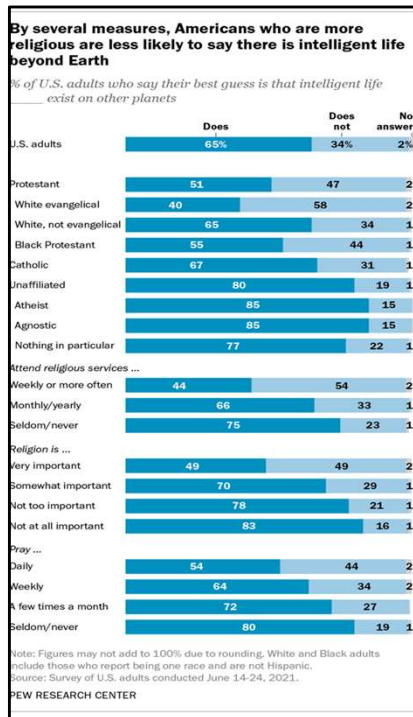
[Rom 11:6 NASB20] 6 But if [it is] by grace, [it is] no longer on the basis of works, since [otherwise] grace is no longer grace.

[Eph 2:8 NASB20] 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this [is] not of yourselves, [it is] the gift of God;



3. What will it take for you to believe?

- Luke 16:31 - “But he said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be persuaded even if someone rises from the dead.’”
 - Pharoah rebelled 10x and more
- “without faith it is impossible to please Him!”
 - Hebrews 11, Ephesians 2



Americans who are more likely to believe in ET? Atheists and Agnostics, 85% Believe there is Intelligent Life in the universe! Extraterrestrials! 2021 With NO proof! No Evidence!

SETI – Millions spent listening for Life in Cosmos

The biggest Self righteous Atheists are Big Believers in ET and put their \$\$\$ there!

4. Where does the Onus lie!

- Matthew 16:26 (NLT) - “And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?”
- Isaiah 5:4 - “What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, [when] I expected [it] to produce [good] grapes did it produce worthless ones?”

o·nus /'ōnəs/ ON US (its ON US)

used to refer to something that is one's duty or responsibility.

“the onus is on you to show that you have suffered loss“

The Burden of Proof! IS Ours!

God owes you Nothing! He's already given you His best!

You owe Him Everything and you owe yourself an honest study/Seek Him!

Jhn 12:48 "The one who rejects Me and does not accept My teachings has one who judges him: the word which I spoke. That will judge him on the last day.

Act 13:46 Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first. Since you repudiate it and consider yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.

Like Pilate, His blood will be on your Hands!

Like Judas – Whatever your reason, Betrayal of Jesus is the worst possible Sin,

Mt.16 Who do YOU say that I AM?

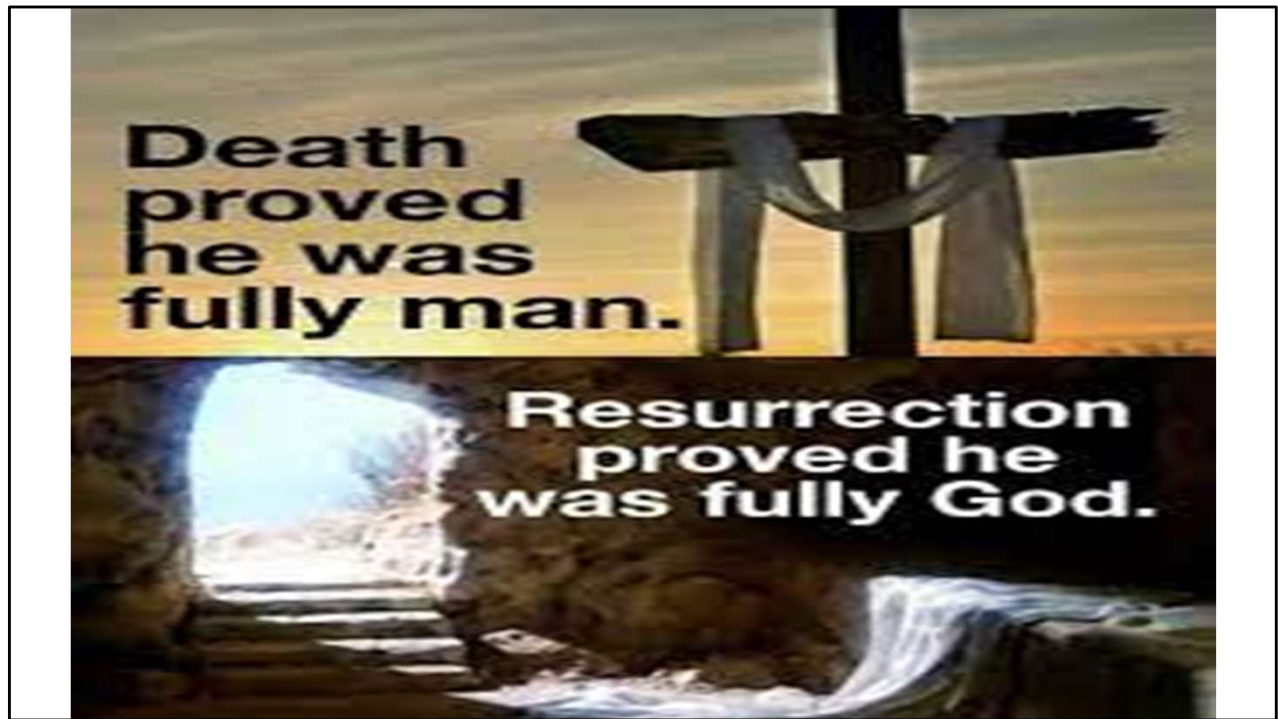
Mat 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of My Father who is in heaven [will enter.] 22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' 23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; LEAVE ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'

[Pro 8:17 NASB20] 17 "I love those who love me; And those who diligently seek me will find me.

[Jer 29:13 NASB20] 13 'And you will seek Me and find [Me] when you search for Me with all your heart.

4. Where does the Onus lie!

- Are you like Judas, the soldiers gambling, Pilate or Paul?
- The burden of proof is yours!



No one has ever sacrificed so much
Or proven himself so effectively!

5. Has anyone ever loved you as much?

- 1 John 3:1 (NIV) - “See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! ...”
- John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life.”

what kind of love

what manner of love

See [fn]how great a love

[Jhn 3:16-19 NASB20] 16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. 17 "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. 18 "The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. 19 "And this is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the Light; for their deeds were evil.

Amazing Grace! John Newton, slave trader!

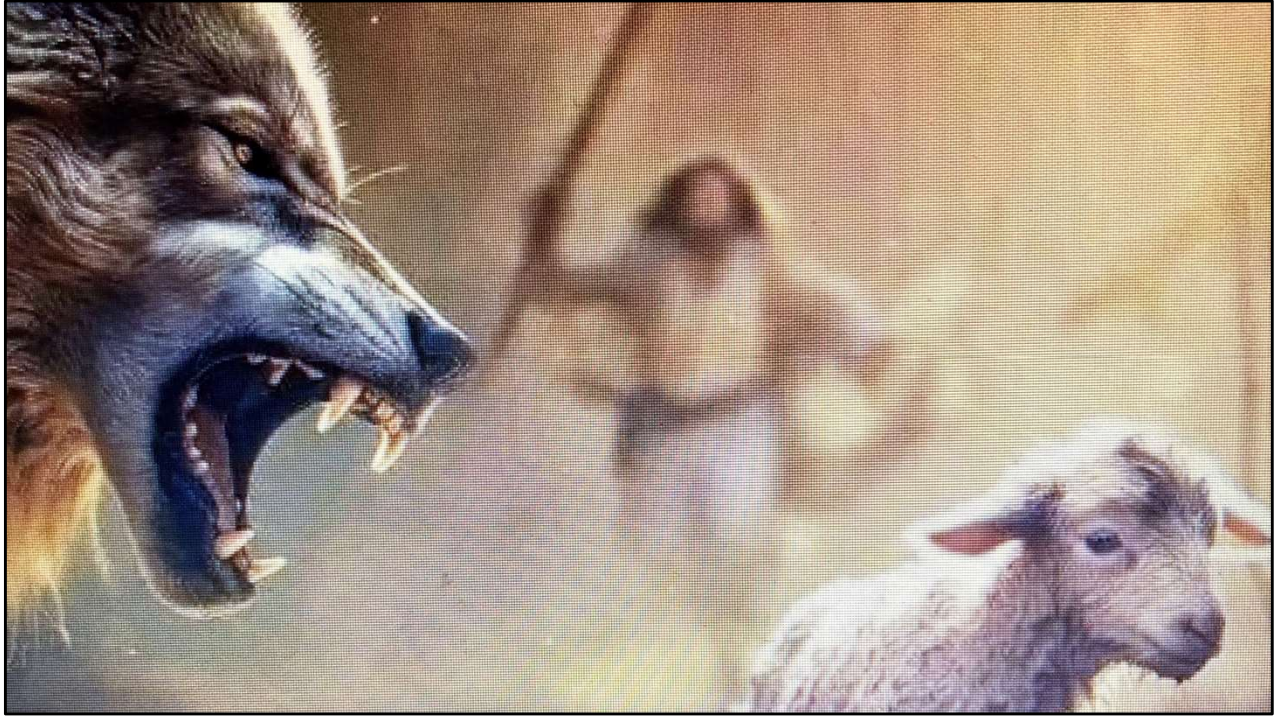
[Rom 5:6-10 NASB20] 6 For while we were still helpless, at [the] right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 For one will hardly die for a righteous person; though perhaps for the good person someone would even dare to die. 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved

from the wrath [of God] through Him. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

[1Jo 4:10 NASB20] 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son [to be] the propitiation for our sins.

5. Has anyone ever loved you as much?

- Romans 8:31-32 - ... “If God [is] for us, who [is] against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?”



6. Does your heart not burn?

- No other “faith” has changed so many from so many origins, for so much good!
- No other story is SO baffling AND SO Beautiful! Grace!
- No other name is so divisive, derided or revered!

The Holy Spirit is the secret weapon! We all KNOW Rom.1 Says many Suppress the truth as the HS convicts!
There are NO foxhole Atheists!

Luk 24:32 They said to one another, "Were our hearts not burning within us when He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"
[Jer 20:9 NLT] 9 But if I say I'll never mention the LORD or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!

[Jer 23:29 NASB20] 29 "Is My word not like fire?" declares the LORD, "and like a hammer [which] shatters a rock?"

[Heb 4:12 NASB20] 12 For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, even penetrating as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

[Act 2:37 NASB20] 37 Now when they heard [this,] they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what are we to do?"

Do you Not sense the drawing of the Spirit? The greatest witness of all

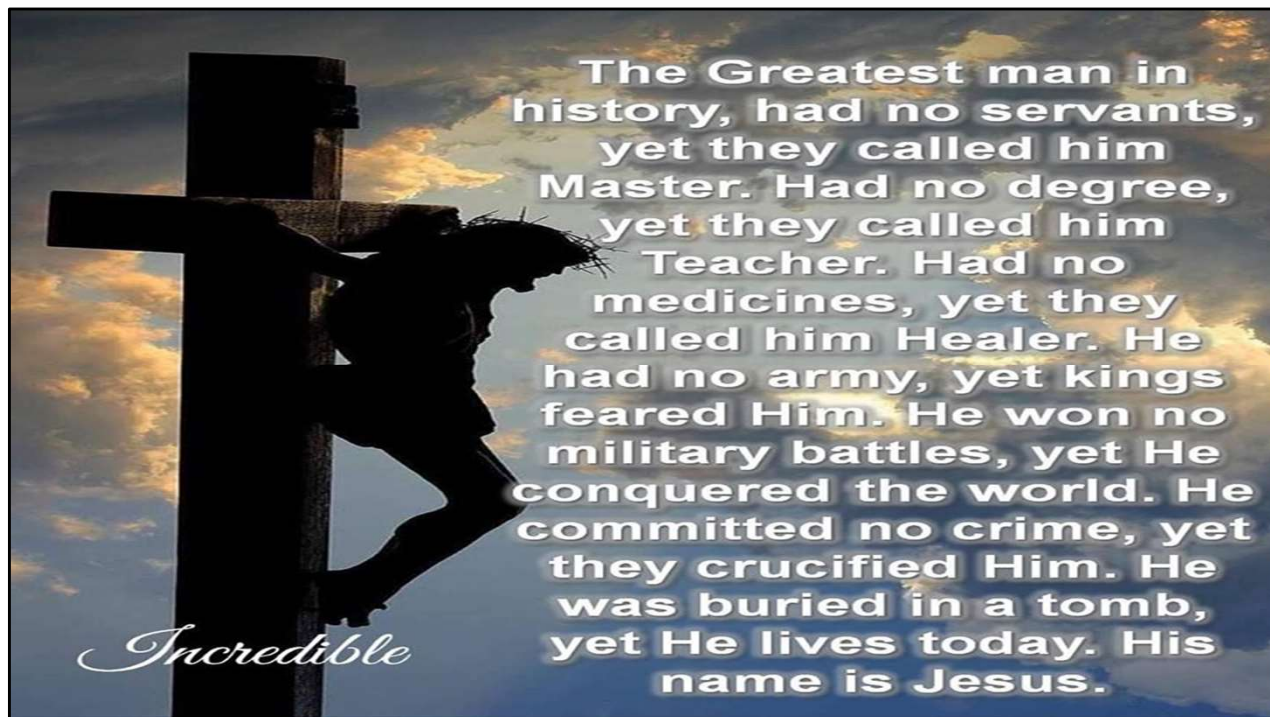
Heb 10:26-31 For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and THE FURY OF A FIRE WHICH WILL CONSUME THE ADVERSARIES. 28 Anyone who has ignored the Law of Moses is put to death without mercy on [the testimony of] two or three witnesses. 29 How much more severe punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY." And again, "THE LORD WILL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE." 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

[Mat 12:31-32 NASB20] 31 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. 32 "And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the [age] to come.

[Jhn 16:7-13 NASB20] 7 "But I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I am leaving; for if I do not leave, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 8 "And He, when He comes, will convict the world regarding sin, and righteousness, and judgment: 9 regarding sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 and regarding righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you no longer [are going to] see Me; 11 and regarding judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged. 12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear [them] at the present time. 13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

6. Does your heart not burn?

- Hebrews 2:3 - “how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard” - 10:26-31; Matthew 12



The Greatest Man in History... Jesus; Had no servants, yet they called Him Master. Had no degree, yet they called Him Teacher. Had no medicines, yet they called Him Healer. He had no army, yet kings feared Him. He won no military battles, yet He conquered the world. He did not live in a castle, yet they called Him Lord, He ruled no nations, yet they called Him King, He committed no crime, yet they crucified Him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today (Lyle C Rollings III, 2008).

He is still the reason for the season.

Always will be.

Singing about a Man

Who was a Baby,

Who became a Boy

Who became a Man.

Born in an obscure village.

A Child of a peasant woman.

He actually grew up in another village where He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty.

And for three years, He was an itinerant preacher.

He never owned a home.

Never wrote a book.

He never held an office.
He never really had a family of His own.
Never went to college.
Never set foot in a big city.
He never traveled 200 miles from the place He was born.
He never did things that usually accompany greatness.
He had no credentials but Himself.
While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him.
His friends ran away.
Even one of His best friends denied Him.
He was turned over to His enemies.
He went through the mockery of a trial.
He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves.
While He was dying, His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on this earth and that was His coat.
And when he was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.
Nineteen long centuries have come and gone and today He is still the centerpiece of the human race, and leader of the column of progress.
I'm far within the mark when I say that all the armies that were ever marched, all the navies that were ever built, all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, all put together, have not affected the lives on this Earth as powerfully as has that
ONE SOLITARY LIFE.
Good news is, He's Alive and ALL IS WELL.
(adapted from an essay by Dr. James Allan Francis)
<https://michaelwsmith.com/one-solitary-life-good-news-is-hes-alive-and-all-is-well/>

He was born in an obscure village,
The child of a peasant woman.
He grew up in still another village,
Where he worked in a carpenter shop
Until he was thirty.
Then for three years
He was an itinerant preacher.
He never wrote a book.
He never held an office.
He never had a family or owned a house.
He didn't go to college.
He never visited a big city.
He never traveled two hundred miles
From the place where he was born.
He did none of the things
One usually associates with greatness.
He had no credentials but himself.

He was only thirty-three
When the tide of public opinion turned against him.
His friends ran away.
He was turned over to his enemies.
And went through the mockery of a trial.
He was nailed to a cross
Between two thieves.
While he was dying,
His executioners gambled for his clothing,
The only property he had on Earth.
When he was dead,
He was laid in a borrowed grave
Through the pity of a friend.
Twenty centuries have come and gone,
And today he is the central figure
Of the human race,
And the leader of mankind's progress.
All the armies that ever marched,
All the navies that ever sailed,
All the parliament that ever sat,
All the kings that ever reigned,
Put together have not affected
The life of man on Earth
As much as that
One Solitary Life.
(By Dr James Allen Francis)
<https://godinallthings.com/2012/04/08/one-solitary-life/>

7. Is Jesus worthy of your All?

- Mark 12:30 - “AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR *HEART*, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.”
- Luke 14:27 - “Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.

7. Is He not worthy of our adoring worship, complete obedience, untiring service, even our lives! Not just a church service a few times a year!
Can you trust Him as Savior BUT NOT as Lord?

IF He is NOT Lord of ALL, He's Not Lord at all!

Luk 14:26-28, 33 "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his own father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. 27 "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28 "For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost, [to see] if he has [enough] to complete [it?] ... 33 "So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

Mar 12:29-30 Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'HEAR, ISRAEL! THE LORD IS OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE; 30 AND YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.'

[Mar 12:32-34 NASB20] 32 And the scribe said to Him, "Well [said,] Teacher; You have truly stated that HE IS ONE, AND THERE IS NO OTHER BESIDES HIM; 33

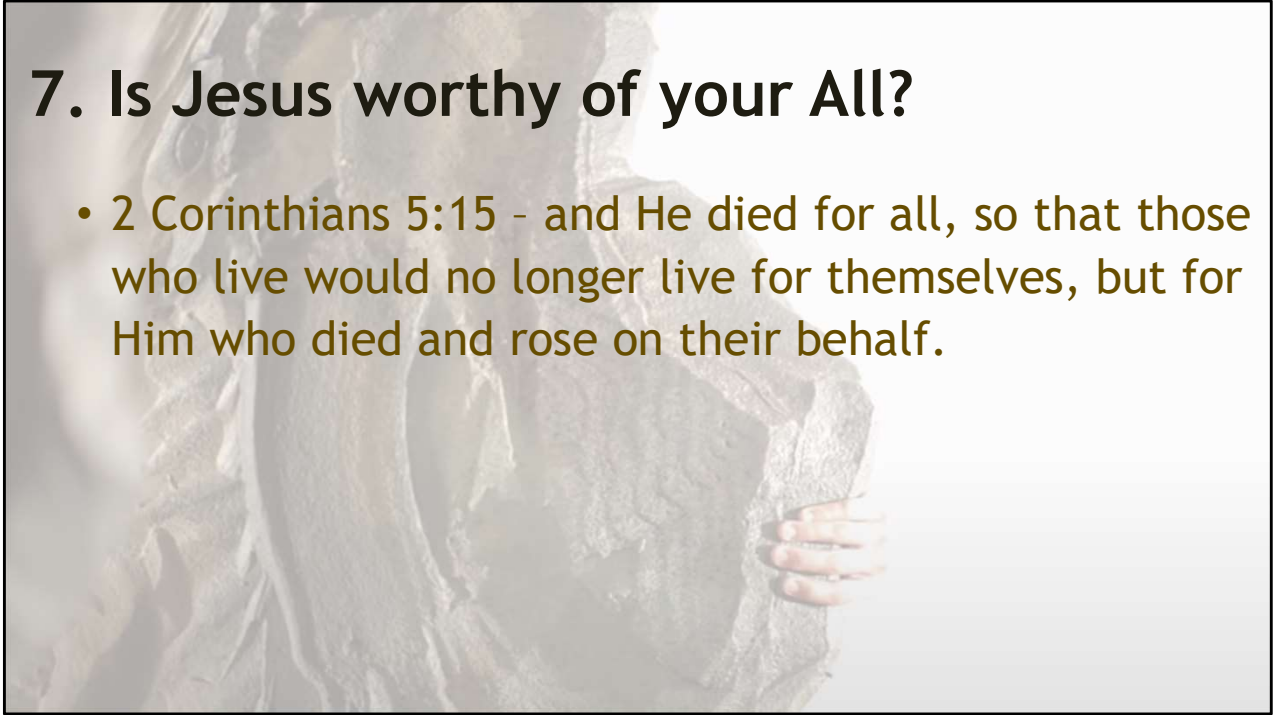
and to love Him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself, is much more than all the burnt offerings and sacrifices." 34 When Jesus saw that he had answered intelligently, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And [then,] no one dared any longer to question Him.

Luk 18:22-27 Now when Jesus heard [this,] He said to him, "One thing you still lack; sell all that you possess and distribute [the money] to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." 23 But when he had heard these things, he became very sad, for he was extremely wealthy. 24 And Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for those who are wealthy to enter the kingdom of God! 25 "For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God!" 26 Those who heard [Him] said, "And [so] who can be saved?" 27 But He said, "The things that are impossible with people are possible with God."

[Act 17:6 ESV] 6 And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, "These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also,

7. Is Jesus worthy of your All?

- 2 Corinthians 5:15 - and He died for all, so that those who live would no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose on their behalf.



In reality, **salvation was bought** not by Jesus' fist, but **by His nail-pierced hands**; not by muscle but **by love**; not by vengeance but **by forgiveness**; not by force but **by sacrifice**. Jesus Christ our Lord **surrendered in order that He might win**; He destroyed His enemies by dying for them and conquered death by allowing death to conquer Him."

AW Tozer



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"If man had his way, the plan of redemption would be an endless and bloody conflict. In reality, salvation was bought not by Jesus' fist, but by His nail-pierced hands; not by muscle but by love; not by vengeance but by forgiveness; not by force but by sacrifice. Jesus Christ our Lord surrendered in order that He might win; He destroyed His enemies by dying for them and conquered death by allowing death to conquer Him."

— A.W. Tozer, Preparing for Jesus' Return: Daily Live the Blessed Hope

Whoever is not with me is against me!

- Matthew 21:42, 44 - Jesus said to them, “Did you never read in the Scriptures, ‘A STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES’? ... “And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and on whomever it falls, it will crush him.”

The Tombstone has become my Cornerstone!

Today, Surrender to Jesus (throw yourself at His mercy, Give Him your allegiance!) or Reject Him to your own eternal peril! This is an Ultimatum!

[Mat 12:30 NASB20] 30 "The one who is not with Me is against Me; and the one who does not gather with Me scatters.

[Mat 12:31 NASB20] 31 "Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven.

[Mat 6:24 NASB20] 24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

[Isa 1:18 NASB20] 18 "Come now, and let us debate [your case,]" Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They shall become as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be like wool.

[Isa 55:7 NASB20] 7 Let the wicked abandon his way, And the unrighteous person his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

[Psa 118:22 NASB20] 22 A stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.

[Mat 21:33, 41-46 NASB20] 33 "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who PLANTED A VINEYARD AND PUT A FENCE AROUND IT, AND DUG A WINE PRESS IN IT, AND BUILT A TOWER, and he leased it to vine-growers and went on a journey. ... 41 They said to Him, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other vine-growers, who will pay him the fruit in the [proper] seasons." 42 Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures, 'A STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS HAS BECOME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE; THIS CAME ABOUT FROM THE LORD, AND IT IS MARVELOUS IN OUR EYES'? 43 "Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruit. 44 "And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and on whomever it falls, it will crush him." 45 When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard His parables, they understood that He was speaking about them. 46 And [although] they sought to arrest Him, they feared the crowds, since they considered Him to be a prophet.

[Act 4:11 NASB20] 11 "He is the STONE WHICH WAS REJECTED by you, THE BUILDERS, [but] WHICH BECAME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE.

[Eph 2:20-22 NASB20] 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

[1Pe 2:4-8 NASB20] 4 And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by people, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices that are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For [this] is contained in Scripture: "BEHOLD, I AM LAYING IN ZION A CHOICE STONE, A PRECIOUS CORNERSTONE, AND THE ONE WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT BE PUT TO SHAME." 7 This precious value, then, is for you who believe; but for unbelievers, "A STONE WHICH THE BUILDERS REJECTED, THIS BECAME THE CHIEF CORNERSTONE," 8 and, "A STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE"; [for] they stumble because they are disobedient to the word, and to this they were also appointed.

questions you must answer before you die!

Do you believe in God? (Faith vs. Atheism 1.1 bil., Rom.1)

How do you determine truth/authority/right and wrong? (Bible/Absolutes)

Which faith/religion is correct?

Who do you believe Jesus Christ is? (Christology-Lunatic, Liar or Lord?)

How does a person get to heaven? (Soteriology)

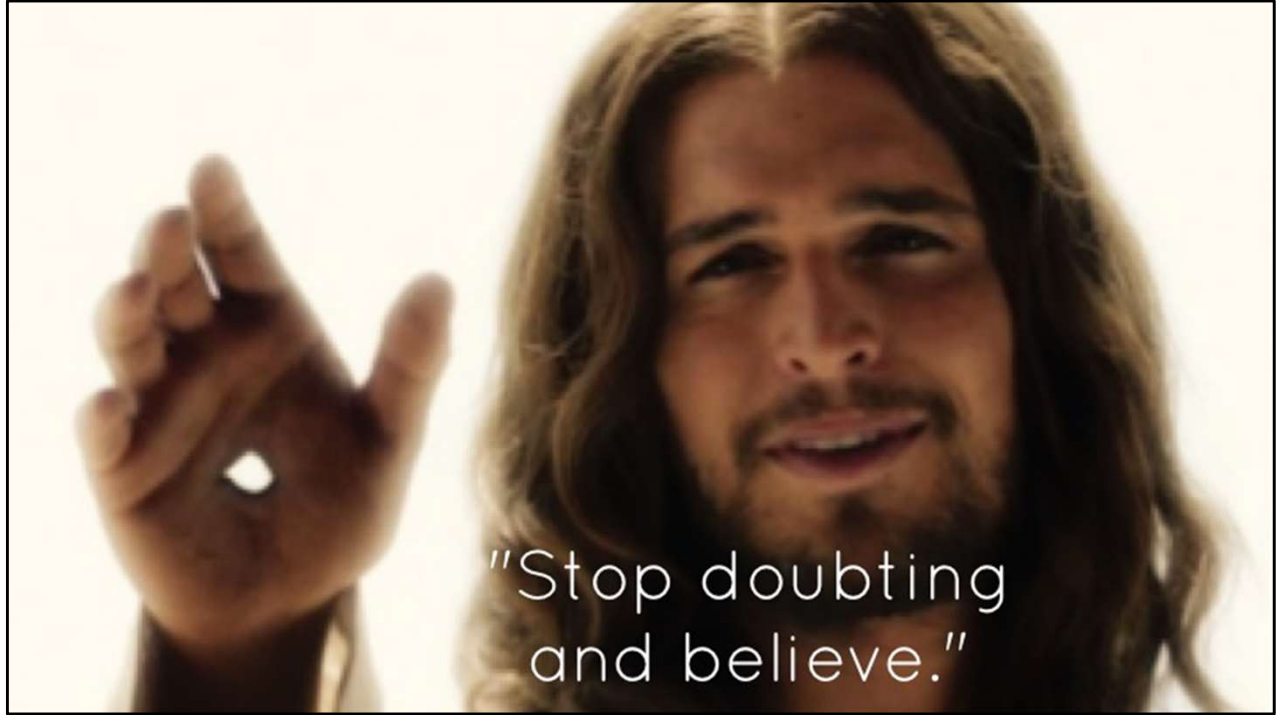
Why did Jesus die on the Cross and rise from the dead?

Do you know what Jesus said was the greatest command and are you abiding by it?

If you were to die today what would those closest to you say you lived

Whoever is not with me is against me!

- Acts 4:12 - “And there is salvation in no one else; for these is no other name under heaven that has been given among mankind by which we must be saved.”



"Stop doubting
and believe."





570 - 632 a.d.



551 - 479 b.c.



563 - 483 b.c.

Wait! This one is empty!



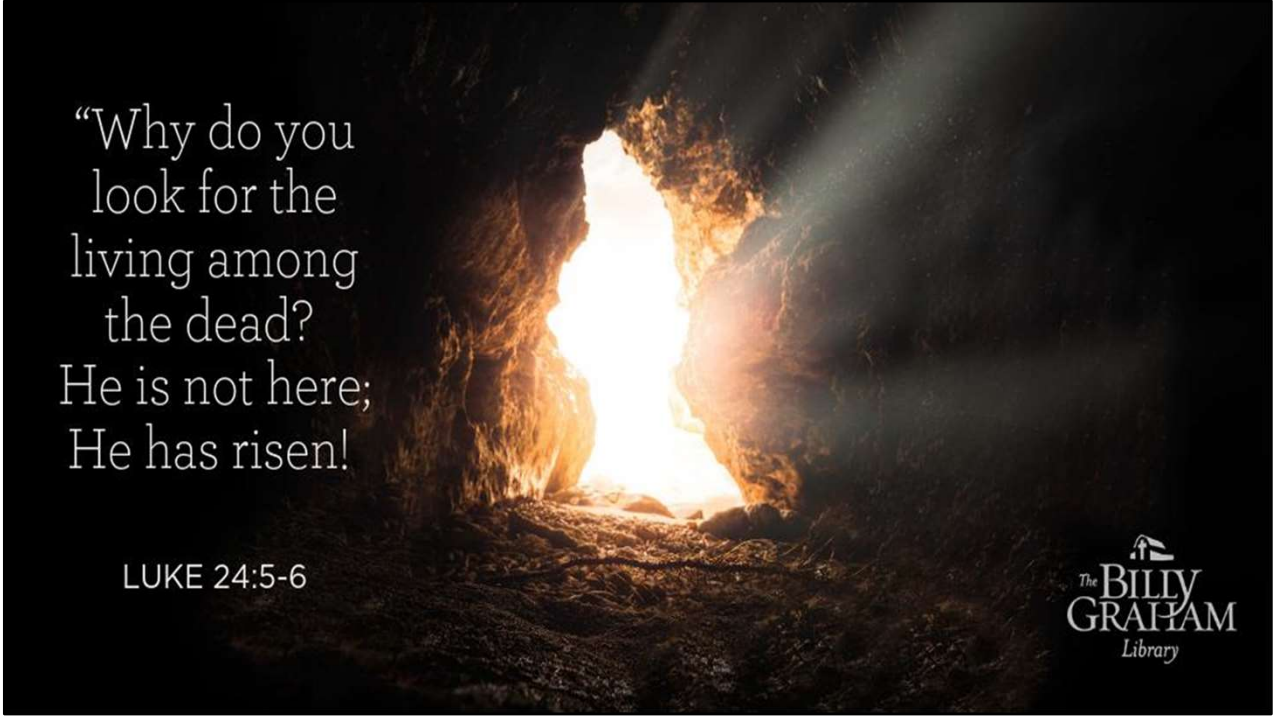
Just another prophet?

"He is not here: for he is risen."

(Matt. 28:6)



Prophecies of the Messiah	Predicted		Fulfilled	
	Date	Old Testament	Date	New Testament
Descendent of Abraham	2069 BC	Genesis 18:18	1 BC	Matthew 1:1
Descendent of Isaac	2028 BC	Genesis 17:19	1 BC	Matthew 1:2
Descendent of Jacob	1408 BC	Numbers 24:17	1 BC	Matthew 1:2
Descendent of Judah	1860 BC	Genesis 49:10	1 BC	Luke 3:34
Descendent of David	734 BC	Isaiah 9:7	1 BC	Matthew 1:1
City of birth - Bethlehem	725 BC	Micah 5:2	1 BC	Matthew 2:6
Where He would minister - Galilee	734 BC	Isaiah 9:1	29 AD	Matthew 4:12
Rejected by the Jews	683 BC	Isaiah 53:3	32 AD	John 1:11
Enter Jerusalem as a king, riding a colt	480 BC	Zechariah 9:9	32 AD	Matthew 21:5
Year, month, and day He would enter then be killed	483 BC	Daniel 9:25	32 AD	Matthew 21:5
Method of execution: crucifixion	980 BC	Psalms 22:16	32 AD	John 20:27
Sold for 30 pieces of silver	480 BC	Zechariah 11:12	32 AD	Matthew 26:15
Cast lots for His clothing	980 BC	Psalms 22:18	32 AD	Mark 15:24
Buried in rich mans tomb	683 BC	Isaiah 53:9	32 AD	Matthew 27:57



“Why do you
look for the
living among
the dead?
He is not here;
He has risen!

LUKE 24:5-6


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