

The Risen Christ

A Sacrifice for Salvation. A Foundation for Belief.

On the first Easter morning, an angel announced the greatest news in human history...

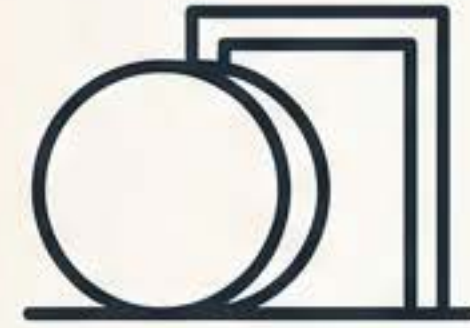
"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said." (Matthew 28:6)

Two Great Truths Rise from the Empty Tomb



The Provision

- The Heart: He died so you might be saved.
- The Focus: A sacrificial gift motivated by profound love.



The Proof

- The Mind: He rose so you might believe.
- The Focus: A historical reality grounded in undeniable evidence.

The Cost of the Transfer

A young boy, asked to give a blood transfusion to his dying sister, watched the blood flow through the tube and asked the doctor, "When do I start to die?"

He misunderstood the medical procedure, believing giving his blood meant giving his life. Because he loved his sister, he was willing to do it.



Every human story of sacrifice is only a faint reflection of divine love. The gospel tells us of One who did not merely think He might die. He knew He would. And He came anyway.

The Miracle of the Incarnation



We could never climb our way up to God.
Religion assumes man must reach for God.



The gospel declares that God reached down for
man. The eternal Son of God took on flesh,
stepping into our darkness (John 1:9).

“The Son of God became the Son of Man, that the sons of
men might become the sons of God.” — John Calvin

The Cross as an Exchange

Jesus was not merely the victim of human injustice.
He was the sacrifice of God for sinners.

What Was Borne:

- Our Sin.
- Our Judgment.
- Our Debt.



What Was Opened:

- Forgiveness Offered.
 - Grace Extended.
 - Eternal Life Promised.
- (John 14:6)

"The death of Christ was the life of our souls." — John Owen

"There is no gospel if Christ did not die; there is no salvation if His blood was not shed." — Charles Spurgeon

The Courtroom of History

A judge instructs a jury that their verdict must be based on evidence beyond a reasonable doubt—not on emotion, and not on speculation.

For two thousand years, the resurrection of Jesus has been examined like a courtroom case.

Is the evidence strong enough to believe? God has provided a historical record so that the mind has permission to trust what the heart needs.



“These things have been written so that you may believe...” (John 20:31)

Evidence Pillar I: The Miracles



Disease: Healed the sick.



Nature: Calmed storms.



Disability: Opened blind eyes.



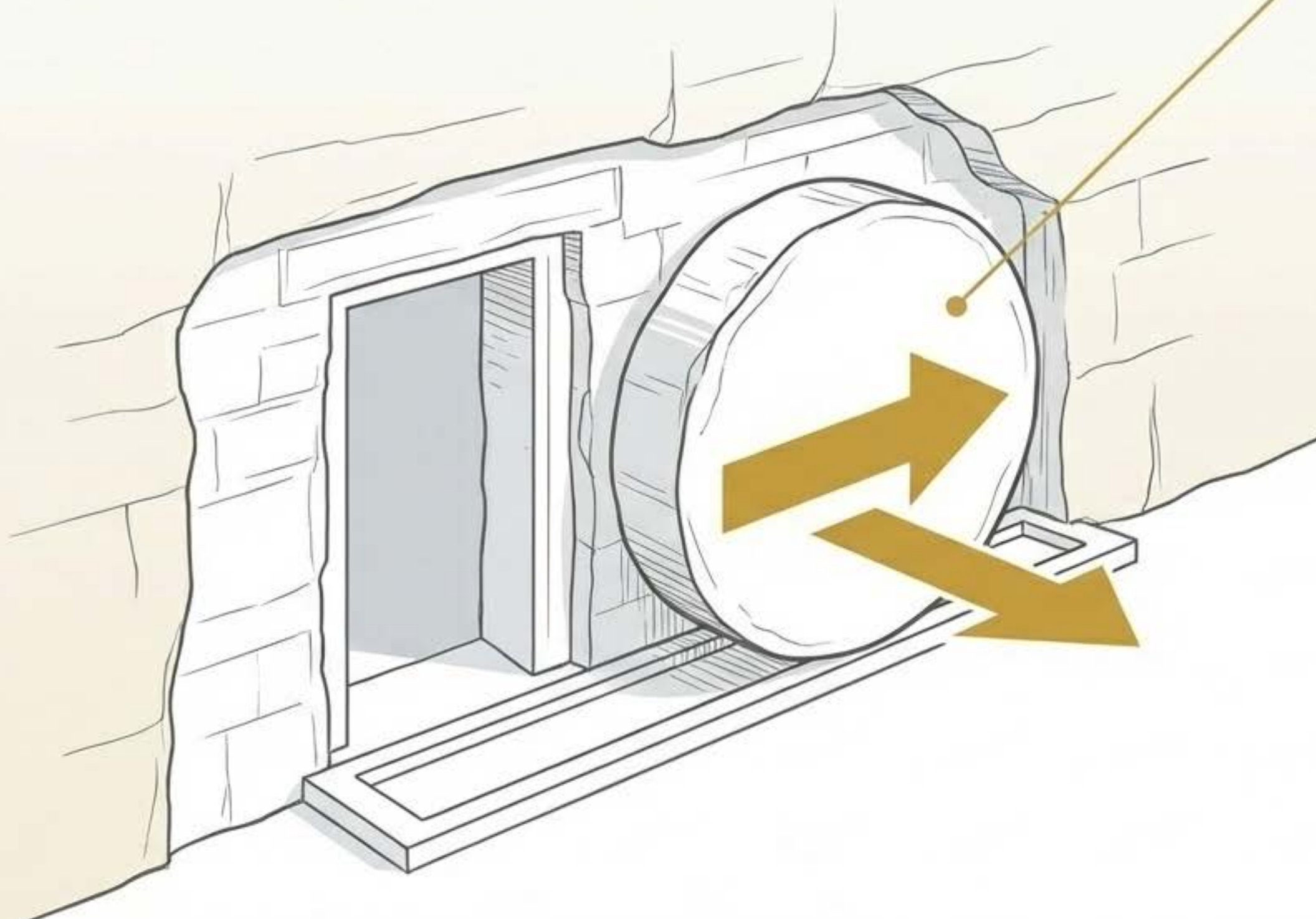
Death: Raised the dead.

These were not random acts of compassion. They were deliberate signs pointing to His divine identity—not merely a prophet, but the Son of God.

“The miracles of Jesus were visible manifestations of the inbreaking kingdom of God.”

— R.C. Sproul

Evidence Pillar II: The Rolled Stone



The Physical Paradox.
The stone was not rolled away to let Jesus out.
The risen Christ was not bound by a sealed tomb.

The stone was rolled away so the witnesses could come in and see. The angel's instruction was the **genesis of Christianity:** *Come and see. Go and tell.* (Matthew 28:6–7)

“The resurrection was God’s public declaration that Jesus is His Son.”

— John Stott

Evidence Pillar III: The Eyewitnesses

Easter Morning.
Mary Magdalene
in the garden.

Afternoon.
Two disciples on the
road to Emmaus.

Evening.
The Apostles in
the upper room.

Following Weeks.
Over 500 witnesses at once
(recorded by Paul).

Jesus did not remain hidden. These appearances were verifiable, physical, and public.

The Martyrs' Test

“Watergate proves the resurrection.”
— Chuck Colson

Watergate

The Men: 12 powerful politicians.

The Threat: Facing prison time.

The Result: Could not maintain a lie for three weeks.

The Apostles

The Men: First-century fishermen and zealots.

The Threat: Facing execution (Stephen stoned, James executed, Peter crucified).

The Result: Maintained their testimony for 40 years.

People may die for a belief. They do not willingly suffer and die for something they know is a lie.

Evidence Pillar IV: Changed Lives

The evidence did not stop in antiquity. Through the centuries, the Holy Spirit has continued His work: convicting hearts, opening eyes, and drawing people to Christ. Addicts set free, the broken restored, hopeless sinners forgiven.

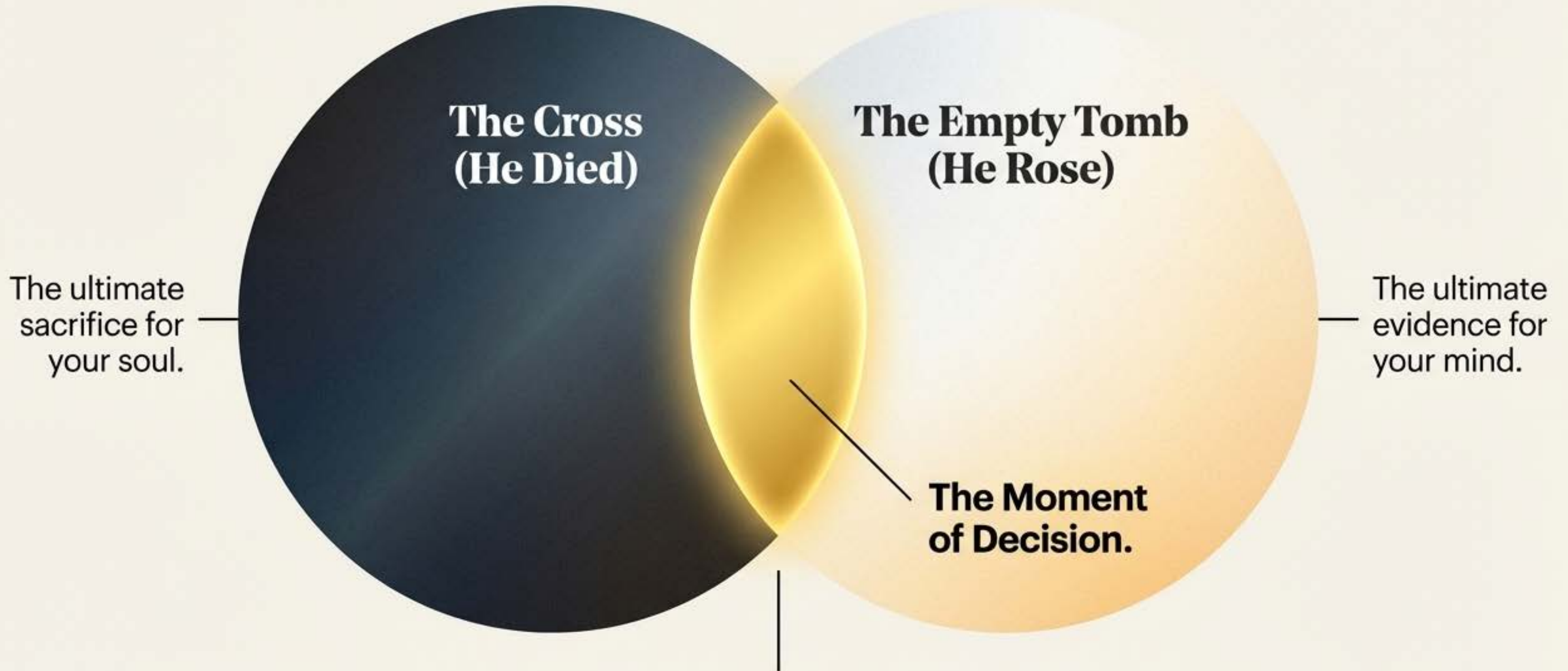
1st Century

Today

“Christ’s resurrection is the cause, the pattern, and the pledge of the believer’s new life.”
— Thomas Watson

“The Spirit’s work is to open blind eyes to see the glory of Christ.”
— John Stott

The Easter Equation



The question of Easter is not merely historical. When the provision of God's love meets the proof of God's action, the outcome is highly personal.

Will You Believe?

Jesus died on a cross in your place, but the tomb is empty. The Savior is alive. Will you trust the One who died for your sins and rose again?

"If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." (Romans 10:9)

He is Risen.

The invitation still stands.
You can believe.
You can be saved.