

# Jesus & the Resurrection

## How to Defend Your Faith-Session 9

### MINIMAL FACTS ARGUMENT

1. Jesus Died by Crucifixion.
2. Many Followers Saw Risen Christ
3. Followers Transformed
4. Brothers of Jesus (James, Jude,...)
5. Saul (Paul) of Tarsus
6. Rapid Early Spread of Gospel

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### Objections to Jesus

- Myth or Legend
- Deity Claims
- Crucifixion
- Resurrection

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### Evidence of Historical Jesus

#### Non-Christian

- Josephus (1st Century)
- Tacitus of Rome (AD56-120)
- Lucian of Samosata (AD125-180)
- Acts of Pilate (~AD155)
- Phlegon of Tralles (~AD137)
- Mara Serapion (~AD165)
- Jewish Talmud (1st-2nd Century)
- Pliny the Younger (~AD24-79)
- Suetonius (~AD69-122)
- Emperor Trajan (~AD98-117)
- Emperor Hadrian (~AD117-138)

### Pseudo-Christian

- Gospel of Thomas
- Apocryphon of John
- Treatise of the Resurrection
- Gospel of Truth
- Gospel of Barnabas
- Letters from Ignatius, Polycarp, Justin Martyr, Quadratus and others

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### Deity Claims from 1st Century

CS Lewis said, *“The reality is Jesus is either a lunatic, a liar, or he is Lord.”*

P66 show John 1:1 and deity of Christ more than 125 years before the Council of Nicaea.

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### Crucifixion Death

- Romans knew how to kill.
- No record of crucifixion survivors
- Historical record of Jesus death

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### Group Hallucination

In group hallucination events participants have different visions, not the same hallucination.

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### Swoon Theory

- H.E.G. Paulus in 1828
- Jesus merely fainted on the cross
- Jesus was then mistakenly buried alive.
- Then reappeared after being resuscitated.

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### Conspiracy Theory (Stolen Body)

- switched
- Concocted

### Evidence of a Risen Jesus

- Women
- Witnesses
- **Willingness**

### Embarrassing Details

- Women 1<sup>st</sup> Witness
- Peter's Denial
- Disciples Runaway & Hide

### Behavioral Changes

- Disciples
- Brothers of Jesus
- Saul of Tarsus

### Willingness to Die rather than Recant.

- Apostles
- Disciples
- Christians

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### Alternative Resurrection Theories

- Wrong Tomb
- Evil Twin
- Group Hallucination
- Disciple Stolen Body (Conspiracy)

### Wrong Tomb

- Bible Account
- Witnesses
- Never used in 1<sup>st</sup> century

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### Evil Twin Theory

Jesus had twin or look alike that impersonated Jesus after the crucifixion.

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