

## Was Jesus Raised From the Dead?

Franklin Church of Christ  
Rusty Doom  
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AM Worship

### Introduction:

#### ACTS 2:37

Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"

- o WHAT AN IMPORTANT QUESTION!
- o BUT...LET'S TALK TODAY ABOUT POSSIBLY A MORE IMPORTANT QUESTION...

### WAS JESUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD?

### Discussion:

- o **Rom 1:4**...who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord...
- o **1 Peter 3:21**...And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you-- not the removal of dirt from the flesh, but an appeal to God for a good conscience-- through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...
- o **1 Peter 1:3**...Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead...
- o **Acts 17:31**...because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead. "
- o **1 Corinthians 15:20 & 23**...But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep... But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming.

HOWEVER...IF JESUS WAS NOT RAISED, THEN...

- o HE IS NOT DECLARED THE SON OF GOD...
- o BAPTISM CANNOT SAVE...
- o WE ARE NOT BORN AGAIN & HAVE NO HOPE...
- o A DAY OF JUDGMENT WILL NOT HAPPEN...
- o CHRISTIANITY HAS NO VALIDITY!

**Matt 27:57-60**...And when it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who himself had also become a disciple of Jesus. This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given over to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

1. IT WAS A NEW TOMB...JOHN 19:41...
2. IT WAS HEWN OUT IN THE ROCK...THERE IS ONLY 1 ENTRANCE...
3. ENTRANCE WAS COVERED BY A LARGE STONE...MARK 16:3

WHAT WAS THE MOST PRECIOUS THING ON EARTH AT THIS TIME?

IT WAS HIS BODY!

- o IT MUST BE PRESERVED...
- o EVIDENCE...ITS CONDITION PROTECTED...
- o HOW DO WE PROTECT OUR VALUABLES?

**Matt 27:62-66**...Now on the next day, which is the one after the preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together with Pilate, and said, "Sir, we remember that when He was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I am to rise again.' "Therefore, give orders for the grave to be made secure until the third day, lest the disciples come and steal Him away and say to the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last deception will be worse than the first." Pilate said to them, "You have a guard; go, make it as secure as you know how." And they went and made the grave secure, and along with the guard they set a seal on the stone.

**Matt 28:1-8**...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 grave. 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. And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow; and the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. "He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. "And go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going before you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you." And they departed quickly from the tomb with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.

THE BODY IS GONE! EXPLANATION? IS IT POSSIBLE THAT...JESUS HAD NOT DIED?

#### THE EVIDENCE

- o EVENTS OF THE NIGHT BEFORE HIS CRUCIFIXION...
- o THE NEXT DAY BEFORE PILATE...
- o THE MOCKING...MT 27:26, 28, 31, 35...
- o ON THE CROSS..."I THIRST"...PIERCING HIS SIDE

#### CONCLUSIONS...

1. DID JESUS SIMPLY LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS & REVIVE?
2. DID THE DISCIPLES SLIP IN THRU A BACK DOOR & STEAL HIS BODY?
3. DID PILATE'S GUARD FALL ASLEEP & ALLOW SOME VANDALS TO COME & STEAL THE BODY?
4. OR IS IT POSSIBLE THAT JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD?

#### EVIDENCE...

1. MARY MAGDALENE & OTHER WOMEN...
2. WHAT ABOUT PETER & JOHN...(JOHN 20:6-7)?
3. THE 2 MEN ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS...
4. THE 11 DISCIPLES & OTHERS...

BUT LET'S SLOW DOWN...

**LUKE 24:36-43**...And while they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst. But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; touch Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." [And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet.] And while they still could not believe it for joy and were marveling, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" And they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish; and He took it and ate it before them.

**LUKE 24:44-45**...Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,

- o THINK OF WHAT THIS MEANT TO HIS DISCIPLES!
- o WHO ELSE COULD HAVE DONE THIS, BUT OUR LORD!

YES...IT IS JESUS!!!

**JOHN 20:24-5**...But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore were saying to him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I shall see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

1. A WHOLE WEEK HAS PAST...WHERE WAS THOMAS?
2. "I MUST SEE...I MUST TOUCH TO BELIEVE!"
3. HE DEMANDS ABSOLUTE PROOF.

**JOHN 20:26-9**...And after eight days again His disciples were inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors having been shut, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand, and put it into My side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed are they who did not see, and yet believed."

#### QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WITNESSES?

1. WERE THEY MISTAKEN?
  - o IF ONLY 1, MAYBE 2, BUT NOT HIS MANY FOLLOWERS.
2. MAYBE THEY WERE LIARS?
  - o DOING IT TO SAVE FACE...
  - o SEEKING FAME, ATTENTION...
  - o NO, THEY DIED FOR THEIR TESTIMONY...
  - o TAUGHT & PERSUADED MANY IN THAT DAY &...
  - o CONTINUE TO DO SO TODAY
  - o SONG 167...WE SAW THEE NOT!

#### **Conclusion:**

#### FINAL QUESTIONS

- o HAVE YOU ASKED...WHAT MUST I DO?
- o HAVE YOU MADE THAT GREAT CONFESSIONS & OBEYED GOD?
- o IF SO, HAVE YOU REMAINED FAITHFUL?