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Was Jesus Christ Resurrected?

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WAS JESUS CHRIST RESURRECTED?

I Cor. 15:12-20

INT: Renan, French infidel, admits 7 truths about Christ in his book, "Life of Jesus".

Are: Was such a man; lived at time ascribed to Him; put to death; buried, sealed in tomb; guards stationed AND his body was missing from tomb. Page 356.

Renan denied resurrection as the answer. We ask: What else? What does it matter? Everything! Nothing else matters if Jesus was not raised from the dead. All is vain.

My objective: To prove, as a lawyer would, that Jesus WAS resurrected from dead by God, the Father.

I. TESTIMONY OF THE OPEN TOMB. "very great stone." *M. 27:60.*

- A. Scripture: John 20:1-2. Friend & foe admit opening.
- B. Who opened the tomb? Who could have?
1. Romans did! No. Guarding body with very lives. *M. 27:66*
 2. Jews did! Then why demand guards to secure it? *27:44*
 - a. If did, then produce body and end controversy.
 3. Apostles did! No army. No expectation. *Lk. 23:56.*
- C. Bible says Angel did it. Matthew 28:2. God's messenger

II. TESTIMONY OF THE EMPTY GRAVE.

- A. Scripture: John 20:2. Even His friends asking about him
- B. Who removed the body? What are the possibilities?
1. The gardner did! Subdued Rome's crack troops?? Alone
 2. Apostles did! Done after a great battle? No. None!
 - a. Guards bribed to blame Apostles. Matt. 28:11-15.
 - b. How guards know? Did while "we slept". *V. 13.*
 - c. Any court in world accept dead man's testimony? Roman guards dead asleep if asleep at all.
 3. Maybe Romans did it. No, said Apostles did it!
- C. Bible said God did it. Romans 6:3-4. Matter of faith!

III. TESTIMONY OF DISCARDED CLOTHES.

- A. Scripture: John 20-5-7.
- B. Who folded the grave clothes of Christ neatly?
1. Not work of robbers. Would keep valuable linen.
 2. Not work of friends. Would take all in haste.
 3. Not work of Romans or Jews. Contrary to their will.
- C. Bible says God did it, or had it done. Romans 6:4.

IV. TESTIMONY OF CHRIST'S APPEARANCES AFTER HIS DEATH.

- A. Bible says: I Cor. 15:1-3. Eyewitnesses' testimony.
- B. Did Jesus really reappear in person. Vital question.
1. Jews bribed Romans to distort the facts, but did admit His disappearance. Did not deny!

P.A. 2-15-59
SS 4-6-69

2. Unbelieving Apostles said He did! John 20:19-31.
 - a. Many died in defense of this confession. Die for lie
 3. 500 witnesses went everywhere preaching it.
 - a. If dishonest or deceived Jews could have surely exposed them and false testimony. So many!!
 - b. Many of his enemies later preached it. Rom. 6:5.
- C. Bible confirms this miracle of all miracles. I Cor. 15:20.

INV: JOHN 5:28-29 teaches us 4 positive facts.

1. You will die and be resurrected one day.
2. Choice of kind of resurrection ends at death.
3. If out of Christ's favor at death will remain out of Heaven forever.
4. If in favor at death will live with God forever.

A plea to all present;

Sinner friends: B-R-C-B

Erring brethren: R-P

Newcomers: Identify with us, today.

When you obey the gospel, you
come to a risen Lord!

you will meet Him at judgment,
John 5:22.

you will live with Him
forever in Heaven.
John 14:81-3.