

HE IS RISEN! Boldness Through Belief

Matthew 28:1-20

I. _____ of the Resurrection. Vs 1-4

Common misconceptions:

- *The disciples stole Jesus' body.*
- *Jesus swooned on the cross. Later, He simply walked away from His grave.*
- *The whole thing was made up. Men just wrote the NT to start a cult.*

a. **Did Jesus just pass out on the cross, revive later in the tomb and then leave?**

The damage to His body was too great.

The stone was too heavy for one person to remove. **Mark 16:3-4**

How did He overpower the guards?

b. **The disciples stole the body. Vs 11-15 record the lie.**

These soldiers were pros.

They knew what they were doing when they crucified Jesus. If the sentence was death. They knew they had to bring a dead man down from the cross.

If they were commanded to keep Jesus in the tomb... they had to guard that tomb on the pain of death!

People lie to _____ something for _____!

No one _____ for a lie.

Either the “resurrection” is the cruelest and most amazing lie ever perpetrated on. Or, **Jesus really did resurrect!**

II. _____ to the Resurrection:

What would make so many willing to lay down their lives rather than renounce Jesus as their Lord?

They saw Jesus raised from the dead! **1 Corinthians 15:1-8**

Even Paul (one who was HOSTILE to the claims of the resurrection of Christ) saw Jesus on the road to Damascus. Result? **Philippians 3:10**

Results of the Resurrection: No _____ of _____.

- Illustration: **kids.**
- The enemy wants you to fear the resurrection. Contrast **1 Corinthians 15:20, 42; Romans 6:5**

When you know that Jesus rose, it does something to you! It changes you!
A boldness for Jesus develops.

Jesus gave us a mission!

Acts 1:8-11; Matthew 28:18-20; Romans 1:3-4; 2 Timothy 1:7; Romans 8:35-39

Example: Acts 4:1-33

As a reward for their efforts, however, those early Christians were beaten, stoned to death, thrown to the lions, tortured and crucified. Every conceivable method was used to stop them from talking. Yet, they laid down their lives as the ultimate proof of their complete confidence in the truth of their message.

Why? _____

Wouldn't that make you bold? Do you see Christ ALIVE in you?

Ephesians 3:12 In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

Prayer: John 11:25-26; 1 Corinthians 15:12-14