

# Was Jesus Resurrected?

By

Robert C. Archer

## Four Arguments Against Their Conclusions

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1. Names were unusual? – not so!
2. Jesus and his relatives had a family tomb? – Not likely
3. They found the bones when the Jewish and Roman authorities could not find them three days after his death?
4. It was a custom that any criminal sentenced to death was not to be buried in the sepulchers of their fathers.

# What We Know

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- Jesus died
  - Soldier's observation (Jno. 19:31-33)
  - Blood and water coming from his side (Jno. 19:34)
  - John's testimony (Jno. 19:35)
  - The testimony of Tacitus, Roman historian (ca. 112 A.D.)
    - "Christus, the founder of the name, was put to death by Pontius Pilate, procurator of Judea in the reign of Tiberius."

# What We Know

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- Jesus was buried (Matt. 27:57-66)
- After three days, the tomb was empty
  - Stone had been removed (Jno. 20:1)
    - No small feat since it had been sealed by Roman soldiers (Matt. 27:62-66)

# What We Know

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- Jesus was buried (Matt. 27:57-66)
- After three days, the tomb was empty
  - Body was gone (Jno. 20:2)
  - Grave clothes were left (Jno. 20:3-9)
    - Peter and John saw the head covering (napkin) lying neatly folded by itself indicating there had been no hurry to get away, or to steal the body (Hailey)

# What Happened To The Body?

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- The official story: disciples stole it (Matt. 28:11-15)
  - If the soldiers were asleep:
    - How did they know it was the disciples who took the body?
    - How could the large stone guarding the entrance be rolled away without awakening the soldiers?
    - The soldiers guarding the tomb were Roman professional soldiers charged to guard the tomb with their lives.
    - The punishment for falling asleep on duty was death.
    - Why would they?

# Was Jesus Raised?

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- **There were eyewitnesses to the resurrected Lord**
  - Appeared to ten apostles (Jno 20:19-25)
  - Appeared to the disciples and Thomas (Jno. 20:26-29)
  - Jesus appeared to six disciples at the Sea of Galilee (Jno. 21:1-14)
  - He appeared to over 500 people at once (1 Cor. 15:6)
  - Then by James and all the apostles (1 Cor. 15:7)
  - Jesus appeared to Saul (1 Cor. 15:8)
  - Someone says that they were all hallucinating!

# What We Know

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- There were eyewitnesses to the resurrected Lord
- The disciples were changed
  - Thomas (Jno. 20:24-29)
  - Disciples (Matt 26:69-75 - Acts 4:5-13)
  - Saul (Acts 7:58 – 23:6)
- The world was changed (Acts 17:6)