

Was Jesus Really Resurrected?

A historical fact which involves a resurrection from the dead is utterly inconceivable. Rudolf Bultmann

So what are some reasons to believe that Jesus was resurrected?

The existence of the church demands a historical cause for its origin.

Why would they keep proclaiming the resurrection to be factual when it brought them imprisonment, beatings and death?

It is not probable that the disciples came up with the plan since they themselves had such a hard time believing the resurrection happened.

The four Gospels were written from the perspective of Jesus' resurrection.

The Gospels tell a unified story though they tell it in different ways

Here is George Ladd's approach to a harmonization:

It's interesting that all the disciples had trouble believing that Jesus was resurrected until they saw Him.

1. They were ignorant of the Lord's Word.

Matthew 16:21 "From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at

the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life."

Matthew 20:17-19 "Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, 'We are going up to

Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to

death and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!"

2. They weren't thinking about the power of Jesus that they had seen first-hand!

John 20:29 "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

But we need to do more today than just say we believe in the resurrection of Jesus.

We need to believe that the resurrected Jesus is present and working mighty works in our world.

Aren't many of us like Thomas when it comes to believing that Jesus still works miracles?

Mary didn't recognize Jesus until He called her name.



1. He is at Ridgecrest today to speak to some of you about your need for you to trust Him to be your Savior.

2. He is at Ridgecrest today to speak to others who are already His followers that you need to come back to a close relationship with Him.

3. He is at Ridgecrest today to speak to others who are already His followers that you need to trust Him enough to let Him be in charge.

4. He also speaks to those who are seeking Him. He brings you the gifts of joy, encouragement and amazement.