

- .As Jonah Was In the Whale
  - .Three Days and Three Nights
- .The Question of the Sabbath
  - .The Week With Two Sabbath Days
    - .It was the day of Preparation, the next day was to be a special Sabbath (Jn 19:31)
    - .The Sabbath was about to begin (Lk 23:53)
    - .The next day the Priests and Pharisees went to Pilate to request a guard unit (Mt 23:63)
    - .And the women bought spices to prepare the mixture for the anointing of Jesus body (Mk 16:1)
- .But Was He Really Dead
  - .Is There Another Answer?
    - .The Swoon Theory
      - .Many died during the beating prior to crucifixion
      - .New word used to describe the pain from the crucifixion – excruciating
      - .Blood loss and hypovolemic shock cause fluid buildup in the pericardium and heart failure
      - .Centurion’s spear confirmed death with the outward flow of much blood and clear fluid/water
- .The Revival in the Tomb
  - .After fainting on the Cross, He Revived in the Tomb
    - .Hypovolemic shock / blood loss
    - .Roman executioners / experts at killing
    - .Grave clothes / 100-150 pounds of paste
    - .How did He move the rock from the inside?
    - .How did He overpower the guards?
    - .How did He walk great distances and give the appearance of “conquering” death within a very short time – hours?
- .What Does the Evidence Say?
  - .Did Jesus Die?
    - .“Clearly the weight of the historical and medical evidence indicates that Jesus was dead before the wound to his side was inflicted. . . . Accordingly, interpretations based on the assumption that Jesus did not die on the cross appear to be at odds with modern medical knowledge.”
      - . Dr. William D. Edwards, 1986
      - . *Journal of the American Medical Association*
- .Okay, But Did He Rise Again?
  - .Or Did the Disciples Steal the Body?
    - .Was Jesus Really buried there?
      - .Witnesses
        - .Pharisees and Sadducees
        - .Guard unit
        - .Women
        - .The Jews never contested the empty tomb!
- .Was He Really Alive?

.Or Did His Body Just Disappear and His Spirit Appear?

.1 Cor. 15:3-7 — Creed from before AD 37

.Witnesses

.Mary Magdalene, Jn 20:10ff. *Sunday*

.On the Road to Emmaus, Lk 24:13 ff. *Sunday*

.The Disciples, Jn 20:19-30 *Sunday*

.Thomas, Jn 20:24ff. *One week later*

.Breakfast on the Beach with the Disciples *Soon after*

.Meeting with 500 of the brothers

.James, his skeptical brother

.Saul of Tarsus *Sometime after the ascension to heaven*

.Is There Any Supporting Evidence?

.What affect did the resurrection have?

.The Disciples died for their belief

.If it was a lie, they knew it and willingly died for it

.The conversion of skeptics who were nearby

.James, Jesus' brother, and Saul of Tarsus

.Changes to key social structures

.The cessation of the daily sacrifice for thousands of faithful Jews

.Baptism and the Lord's Supper

.The emergence of the Church

.Upended the Roman Empire in less than 300 years

.Who Do You Say Jesus Is?

.What will you do with what you know to be true?

.“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about [Jesus]: ‘I’m ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don’t accept His claim to be God.’ That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic . . . or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice, Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

*Once skeptical Cambridge University professor, C. S. Lewis*

.Today is the Day of Salvation

.Do not harden your heart as the Jews did in the wilderness

.That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” *Romans 10:9-13*