

Resurrection Sunday, April 16, 2017
The Evidence for the Resurrection
John 20:1–18

- I. Three Evidences for Christ's Resurrection
 - A. Believe from the Evidence of the Stone 20:1–2
 - 1. What Is the Significance That the Stone Was Moved?
 - 2. Why Was it So Important That the Stone Was Moved?
 - B. Believe from the Evidence of the Grave Clothes 20:3--10
 - 1. What Is the Significance of the Grave Clothes Neatly in Order? 20:5–6
 - 2. What Is the Reason for the Grave Clothes Neatly in Order?
 - C. Believe from the Evidence of Having a Woman as a Witness 20:11-18
 - 1. What Is the Significance of Christ's Appearance to Women?
 - 2. What Is the Reason for Christ's Appearance to Mary First?
- II. What's the Verdict upon the Evidence?
 - A. Supposed Objections to the Evidence
 - 1. Perhaps Christ Actually Never Died
 - 2. Perhaps Christ Died, but Not Physically Raised, Only a Spiritual Resurrection
 - 3. Perhaps Christ Died, but Was Not Raised, the Disciples Stole the Body
 - B. Solid Conviction of the Truth of the Resurrection of Christ
 - 1. Christ's Resurrection Is the Only Explanation for the Change of the Day of Worship (Rev. 1:10; Acts 20:7)
 - 2. Christ's Resurrection Is the Only Explanation for the Change in the Apostles Mk. 16:14; Jn. 20:19f
 - C. So What Is Your Response to the Evidence?

QUOTES:

“A bodily (that is, a physical) resurrection from the dead lies at the heart of Christianity. Indeed without this, there would be no biblical Christianity, no gospel, and no world-wide and eternity-long family of God, the church.” (S Ferguson)

“Christianity is a religion about facts. It is rooted in the fact of a physical resurrection. Without that Christianity collapses. It is altogether destroyed.” (Ferguson)

“If the resurrection of Jesus could be disproved, Christianity would collapse as a world view.”
Amy Orr-Ewing

“If we wish to have the principle thing of Christianity, we must accept this resurrection by which Christ [He] has acquired for us life and salvation by which he showed himself to be the true Son of God.”
(John Calvin)

If a person does not believe in the resurrection of Christ “he must deny in a lump the Gospel and everything that is proclaimed of Christ and of God. For all of this is linked together like a chain . . . Whoever denies this article must simultaneously deny far more . . . in brief, *that God is God.*”
Martin Luther

“Taking all the evidence together, it is not too much to say that there is no historic incident better or more variously supported than the resurrection of Christ.” New Testament scholar, B. F. Westcott

“There was no possible advantage to the church to recount that all the first witnesses were women. It could only have undermined the credibility of the testimony. The only possible explanation for why women were depicted as meeting Jesus first is if they really had.” (Keller)

"If our Lord said, frequently, with great definiteness and detail, that after He went up to Jerusalem He would be put to death, but on the third day He would rise from the grave and this prediction came to pass, then everything else that our Lord ever said must also be true. Wilber Smith

“Most people think that, when it comes to Jesus’s resurrection the burden of proof is on believers to give evidence that it happened. That is not completely the case. The resurrection also puts a burden of proof on its nonbelievers. It is not enough to simply believe Jesus did not rise from the dead. You must then come up with a historically feasible alternate explanation for the birth of the church.” Tim Keller

"The resurrection of Christ is therefore emphatically a test upon which depends the truth or falsehood of the Christian religion. It is either the greatest miracle or the greatest delusion which history records.
Philip Schaff, church historian

“Authentic Christianity—the Christianity of Christ and the apostles—is supernatural Christianity. It is not a tame and harmless ethic, consisting of a few moral platitudes, spiced with a dash of religion. It is a resurrection religion, a life lived by the power of God.” (John Stott)