

COME BACK FROM THE DEAD!

- The Foundation of our Faith isn't the Teaching of Jesus!
- The Foundation of our Faith isn't Faith!
- The Foundation of our Faith is an Event!
- The Foundation of our Faith is the Resurrection of Jesus from the Dead!

*** Luke 9:22 "And he said, 'The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.'"

Jesus said He would prove who He was by His Resurrection!

*** Luke 24:17b-21 "They stood still, their faces downcast. One of them, named Cleopas, asked him, 'Are you only a visitor to Jerusalem and do not know the things that have happened there in these days?' 'What things?' he asked. 'About Jesus of Nazareth,' they replied. 'He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.'"

When someone comes back from the dead – it changes EVERYTHING!

"The resurrection is the greatest feat of all history." - Hank Hannegraff

F = Facts! The resurrection of Jesus is history!

"It was therefore impossible that they [the early Christians] could have persisted in affirming the truths they have narrated, had not Jesus actually risen from the dead, and had they not known this fact as certainly as they knew any other fact." - Dr. Simon Greenleaf

- Resurrection Fact #1: Prophecy!
- Resurrection Fact #2: Archaeology!
- Resurrection Fact #3: History!
- Resurrection Fact #4: Practice!
- Resurrection Fact #5: The Emergence of the Church!

E = Empty Tomb! Matthew 28:11-15

- The Roman Authorities?
- The Jewish Authorities?
- The Disciples?

"If all the evidence is weighed carefully and fairly, it is indeed justifiable, according to the canons of historical research, to conclude that the tomb in which Jesus was buried was actually empty on the morning of the first Easter. And no shred of evidence has yet been discovered in literary sources, epigraphy or archaeology that would disprove this statement." - Paul L. Maier

When a guy says, "I'm going to die and then come back to life!" and does it — sign me up!

*** 1 Corinthians 15:3-5 "For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve."

The empty tomb was a huge problem for the enemies of Jesus and that's because it was a historical reality!

A = Appearances!

The apostle Paul said: "...he appeared to more than 500 of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living..." 1 Corinthians 15:6

"The Resurrection was undoubtedly the central proclamation of the early church from the very beginning. The earliest Christians didn't just endorse Jesus' teachings; they were convinced they had seen him alive after his crucifixion. That's what changed their lives and started the church." - Gary Habermas

T = Transformation!

The final proof for the resurrection is changed lives.

Ravi Zacharias - "Jesus Christ didn't come into this world to make bad people good, He came into this world to make dead people live."

The resurrection...it's too important to dismiss.

If what Jesus said about His own resurrection was true, then everything else He said is true as well!

***Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord... then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you!'"

***Luke 6:46 "Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord' and do not do what I say?"

*** John 11:25 "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies;"

*** John 14:6 "Follow me, I am the way the truth and the life..."

*** 1 Corinthians 15:20-22 "But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive."

The resurrection is not just history, it is His story and embracing it will change your life!