

A.M. OUTLINE  
4 / 17 / 2022

## RESURRECTION: ANSWERING OBJECTIONS

(John 19:31 - 20:10)

### INTRODUCTION

Other scripture references to the resurrection story: (Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-12; Acts 2:22-24; 1 Corinthians 15:1-8)

Skeptic - scoffer; mocker; non-believer; doubter; the questioner; suspicious; one seeking answers to the truth of something.

### 1. THE DISCIPLES STOLE THE BODY

(Matthew 28:11-15) - this text records the guards going to the chief priests to inform them about the empty tomb (resurrection), and they bribed the guard to tell this hoax.

- Answer -
- 1) If they were asleep when it happened, how would they know who stole the body?
  - 2) The guards would incur a death penalty for a prisoner or a body to escape their guard.
  - 3) Would the disciples go through martyrdom for an untruth?
  - 4) (John 20:5-8) Robbers, in a hurry to do their deed, would not be tidy.

### 2. JOSEPH & NICODEMUS REMOVED THE BODY TO A DIFFERENT BURIAL SITE

- Answer -
- 1) When would they have done that deed? - Violate the Sabbath, too?
  - 2) Could two men slip past a guarded tomb to commit the deed?
  - 3) (Luke 23:50) notes Joseph's character, and he would not perpetuate a hoax.

### 3. THE WOMEN WENT TO THE WRONG TOMB ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK

- Answer -
- 1) (Luke 23:54-56) These women were eye-witnesses to the burial, and they could not have forgotten the burial site over the weekend.
  - 2) (John 19:41) The burial site was easily identified.
  - 3) Perhaps it's possible for one person to get lost, but not a small group.

### 4. THE APPEARANCES OF JESUS AFTER THE RESURRECTION WERE ILLUSIONS OR HALLUCINATIONS BY THE WITNESSES

- Answer -
- 1) Perhaps possible if only a few witnesses; however, the witnesses are too many for it to be a deception: (1 Cor. 15:5-8) records Peter, the 12, over 500 at once, James, all the apostles, and Paul. (Luke 24:18) Cleopas and a companion on the way to Emmaus. (Acts 1:3-11) a large audience gathered to witness Jesus' ascension 40 days after His resurrection.
  - 2) Why would the "hallucinations" stop after 40 days? No record of Jesus being said to be seen on earth after His ascension.

### 5. THE SWOON THEORY

- Answer - the scriptures affirm Jesus' death: (John 19:31-37; Mark 15:44-45; Luke 23:46) and (John 19:39-40)