

# Stay Connected!

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@ryanpauly3



Monthly  
Training Letter



RESURRECTION:  
REAL?  
OR REAL DUMB?

Ryan Pauly



## Sura 4:157

“We killed the Messiah, Jesus, son of Mary, the messenger of Allah.” But they neither killed nor crucified him—it was only made to appear so. Even those who argue for this crucifixion are in doubt. They have no knowledge whatsoever—only making assumptions. They certainly did not kill him.



Why do people think  
the resurrection is dumb?

**“People don’t  
come back from the dead!”**







# Is the resurrection important?

## ❖ Paul seems to think so in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19

“Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our **preaching is in vain** and **your faith is in vain**. We are even found to be **misrepresenting God**, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, **your faith is futile** and **you are still in your sins**. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, **we are of all people most to be pitied.**”



# Is the resurrection important?

❖ **Paul seems to think so in 1 Corinthians 15:32**

**“If the dead are not raised, ‘Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.’”**



**Christianity without a resurrection is  
like buying a Ferrari 458 Italia for  
\$230,000...**



**But it's missing 1 part:**

**RIP-OFF!**



WHAT ARE SOME  
POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS  
FOR THE RESURRECTION?



# Explanations 🔍

- Jesus didn't exist
- Wrong tomb
- Swoon theory
- Twin Theory
- Hallucination Theory
- Stolen Body
- Moved Body
- Conspiracy Theory
- Resurrection

# Evidence ⚖️



## Explanations 🔍

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## Evidence ⚖️

- Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion.



# Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**

## Evidence

**Matthew 27:50** “And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit.”

**Mark 15:37** “And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last.”

**Luke 23:46** “Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.”

**John 19:30** “When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,” and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.”



## Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**
- **Tacitus**

## Evidence

**“Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus.”**



# Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**
- **Tacitus**
- **Josephus**

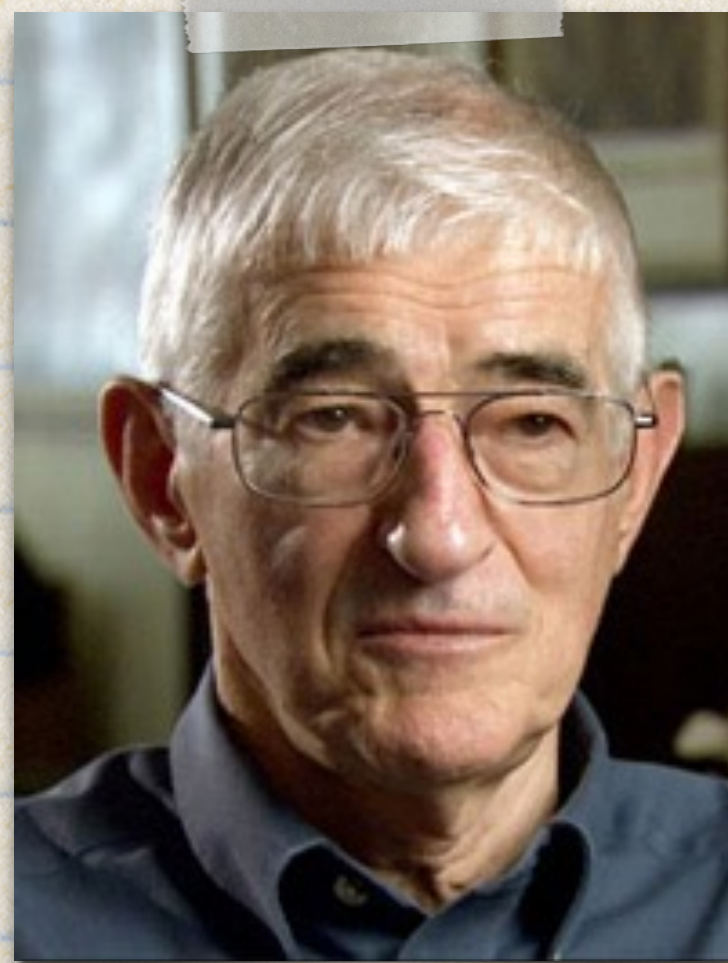
## Evidence

**“When Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing amongst us, had condemned him to be **crucified**, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him.”**



# Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**
- **Tacitus**
- **Josephus**
- **John Dominic Crossan**



## Evidence

**“I take it absolutely for granted that **Jesus was crucified** under Pontius Pilate. Security about the fact of the crucifixion derives not only from the unlikelihood that Christians would have invented it but also from the existence of two early and independent non-Christian witnesses to it, a Jewish one from 93-94 C.E. and a Roman one from the 110s or 120s C.E.”**



# Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**
- **Tacitus**
- **Josephus**
- **John Dominic Crossan**
- **Did he really die?**

# Evidence

**“The fact of Jesus’ death as the consequence of crucifixion is indisputable.”**

**- Gerd Ludemann**





## Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion

- **Mentioned in all four Gospels.**
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- **John Dominic Crossan**
- **Did he really die?**

## Evidence

**“Clearly, the weight of historical and medical evidence indicates that Jesus was dead before the wound to his side was inflicted and supports the traditional view that the spear, thrust between his right ribs, probably perforated not only the right lung but also the pericardium and heart and thereby ensured his death. Accordingly, interpretations based on the assumption that Jesus did not die on the cross appear to be at odds with modern medical knowledge.”**

**-Journal of the American Medical Association**



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- Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion.
- The tomb was empty.



# The Tomb Was Empty

- **Joseph of Arimathea**

# Evidence

**Luke 23:50-52 “a man named Joseph, who was a member of the Council, a good and righteous man (he had not consented to their plan and action), a man from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who was waiting for the kingdom of God; this man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.”**



# The Tomb Was Empty

- **Joseph of Arimathea**
- **Buried in Jerusalem**

# Evidence





# The Tomb Was Empty

- **Joseph of Arimathea**
- **Buried in Jerusalem**
- **Enemies admit it's empty**

# Evidence

**Matt. 28:12-13 “And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers and said, ‘Tell people, His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’”**



# The Tomb Was Empty

- **Joseph of Arimathea**
- **Buried in Jerusalem**
- **Enemies admit it's empty**
- **Discovered by women**



# Evidence

**Mark 16:1 “When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb.”**



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- Jesus Died by Roman Crucifixion.
- The tomb was empty.
- The disciples claimed to see the risen Jesus.



# The disciples claimed to see the risen Jesus

## • 1 Corinthians 15:3-8

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that **Christ died** for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that **he was buried**, that **he was raised** on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to **Cephas**, then to the **twelve**. Then he appeared to more than **five hundred brothers** at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to **James**, then to **all the apostles**. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he **appeared also to me**.

## Evidence

“We can assume that all the elements in the tradition are to be dated to the first two years after the crucifixion of Jesus. It is also likely for 1 Cor. 15:6a-7 since the conversion of Paul lies at the chronological end of the appearances cited and is probably to be thought of as not later than three years after the death of Jesus.”

- **John Dominic Crossan**



# The disciples claimed to see the risen Jesus

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## Evidence

Historians, of course, have no difficulty whatsoever speaking about the belief in Jesus' resurrection, since this is a matter of public record. For it is a historical fact that some of Jesus' followers came to believe that he had been raised from the dead soon after his execution. We know some of these believers by name; one of them, the apostle Paul, claims quite plainly to have seen Jesus alive after his death.

- **Bart Ehrman**



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- The disciples claimed to see the risen Jesus.
- The lives of the disciples, Paul, and James were transformed.



The lives of the disciples, Paul,  
and James were transformed

- **Peter**

## Evidence

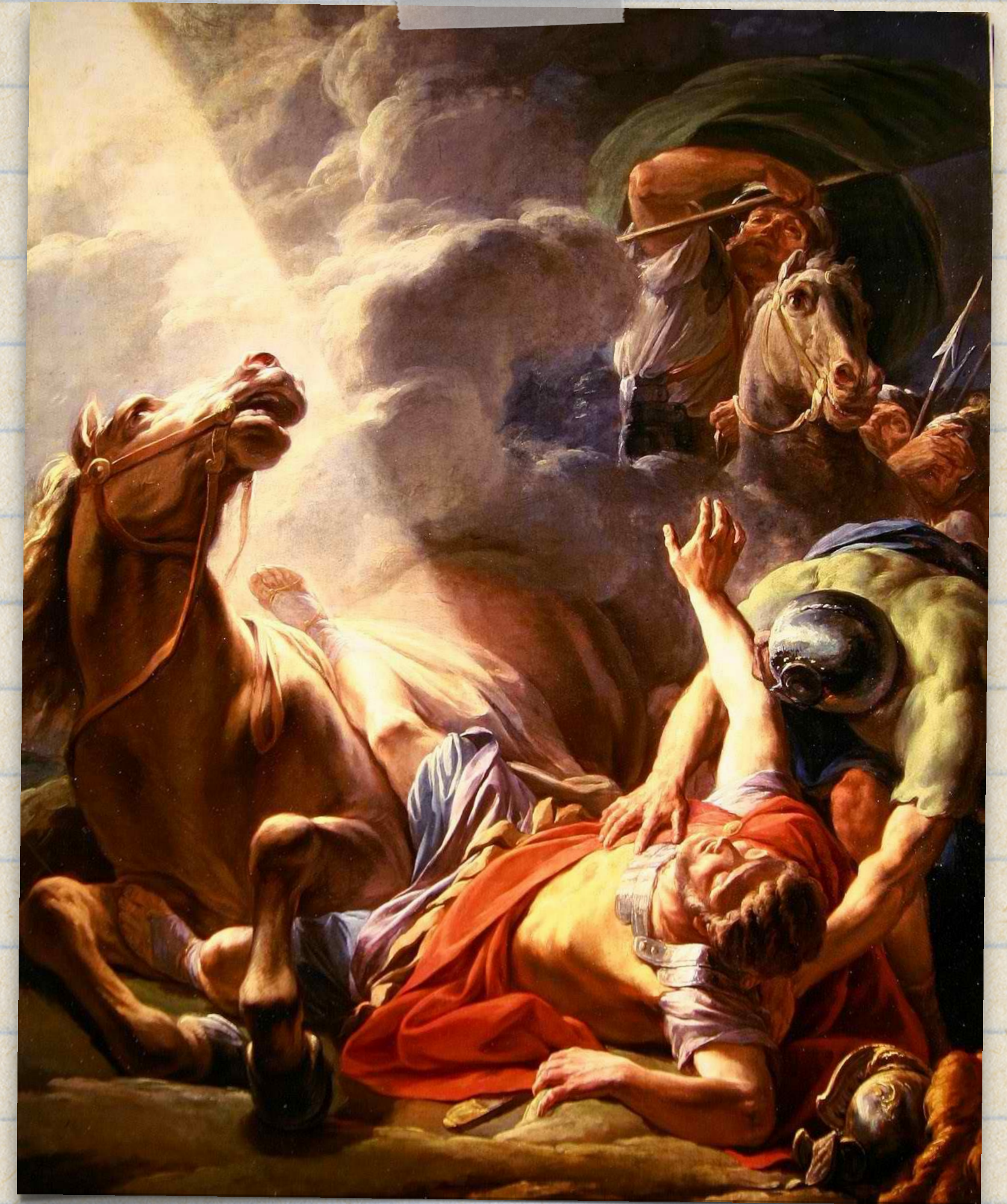




The lives of the disciples, Paul,  
and James were transformed

- Peter
- Paul

Evidence





The lives of the disciples, Paul,  
and James were transformed

- **Peter**
- **Paul**
- **James**

## Evidence

**What would you do if your  
brother said he was God?**



## Explanations 🔍

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- The tomb was empty.
- The disciples claimed to see the risen Jesus.
- The lives of the disciples, Paul, and James were transformed.



# Is the resurrection important?

## ❖ Romans 8:11-14

**If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.**

**So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.**



# Is the resurrection important?

## ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:42-44

**“So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body.”**



# Is the resurrection important?

## ❖ 1 Corinthians 15:52-57

**“For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:**

**“Death is swallowed up in victory.”**

**“O death, where is your victory?**

**O death, where is your sting?”**

**The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**