

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS

ACTS 1:3

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INTRO: The words of the angel to the women who came to visit the tomb of Jesus in Matthew 28:6, **“HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN AS HE SAID,”** are TEN WORDS that must have rung in the ears of those ladies for the rest of their lives, and certainly they have rung in the lives of BORN AGAIN BELIEVERS for 1,981 years! Those TEN WORDS and the truth they proclaim have not only been remembered by MILLIONS OF CHRISTIANS down through the years, but they have **CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY!** The recognized calendar of the world and the “religious” belief of the majority of the people in the world stem back to those TEN WORDS! In addition, those TEN WORDS have **CHANGED THE LIVES OF PEOPLE FROM ALL BACKGROUNDS WHO HAVE TRUSTED CHRIST AS THEIR PERSONAL SAVIOR!** Because of those TEN WORDS believers in Christ have hope, peace, joy, encouragement and the assurance of eternal life in Heaven with God! BUT HOW DO WE KNOW THAT THOSE WORDS ARE TRUE? HOW DO WE KNOW THAT CHRIST REALLY ROSE FROM THE GRAVE? ACTS 1:3 GIVES THE ANSWER. **JESUS CHRIST “SHOWED HIMSELF ALIVE AFTER HIS PASSION BY MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS.”** **WHAT ARE SOME OF THOSE INFALLIBLE PROOFS?**

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A STUDY OF THE WORDS:

- 1) “MANY” – “MULTITUDES.”
- 2) “INFALLIBLE” – “INCAPABLE OF ERROR.”
- 3) “PROOFS” – “CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE.”

ALONG WITH THE TEN WORDS, “HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN AS HE SAID,” these THREE WORDS, “MANY INFALLIBLE PROOFS,” PRESENT AN INCREDIBLE TRUTH WHICH MUST BE PROCLAIMED AROUND THE WORLD! Here is what they are telling us:

“THERE ARE MULTITUDES OF EVENTS, WHICH ARE INCAPABLE OF ERROR, THAT GIVE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD AND SAVIOR!”

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I. INFALLIBLE PROOFS AND THE DISCIPLES

For **FORTY DAYS** after His resurrection and before His ascension back to Heaven, Christ showed Himself alive to His disciples.

- A. An Empty Tomb – Seen by Peter, John, a multitude of women and others.
- B. An Emergence of Live Appearances – No less than TEN and on one occasion before over 500 brethren – 1 Corinthians 15:6. Here are those events in the proper order:
 1. To Mary Magdalene – Mark 16:9-11.
 2. To the women returning to the tomb – Matthew 28:8-10

3. To Peter, in the afternoon after the resurrection – Luke 24:34.
4. To the two disciples on the Emmaus road in the evening – Mark 16:12
5. To the disciples with Thomas absent – Mark 16:14
6. To the disciples with Thomas present – John 20:19-25
7. To the seven disciples by the Sea of Galilee – John 21
8. To the 500 brethren – 1Corinthians 15:6
9. To James, His half-brother – 1 Corinthians 15:7
10. To the disciples at His ascension – Acts 1:3-12

NOTE: **IT IS ALSO TO BE NOTED THAT AFTER HIS ASCENSION, CHRIST APPEARED TO TWO OTHER MEN.**

1) To Stephen at his stoning – Acts 7:55-60

2) To Paul at his conversion – Acts 9:3-8

C. An Evident Change

-From fear and weakness to boldness and strength, even to the willingness to the point of death, Stephen being the first martyr (Acts 6:54-60) and other apostles to follow.

ILLUSTRATION:

II. INFALLIBLE PROOFS AND THE SKEPTICS

Skeptics cannot HONESTLY refute or deny the resurrection of Christ!

A. The Tomb of Christ was guarded by 60 Roman Soldiers, and still He arose – Matthew 27:62-66

B. The Tomb was sealed with a waxed cord, and still He arose - Matthew 27:66

C. The Knowledge of the Guards – Matthew 28:4

D. The Fabricated lies of the Guards – Matthew 28:11-15

E. The Words of Josephus (A secular Jewish Historian)

“Now, there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of many wonderful works, - a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principle men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him.”

ILLUSTRATION:

III. INFALLIBLE PROOFS AND THE DAY OF WORSHIP

From Saturday (the Sabbath) to Sunday (the Lord's Day)

ILLUSTRATION:

IV. INFALLIBLE PROOFS AND THE GOSPEL

The resurrection of Christ is the empowers of the Gospel

A. The Resurrection is a part of the Gospel – 1 Corinthians 15:3,4

B. The Resurrection makes the Gospel effective – Romans 1:16

ILLUSTRATION:

V. INFALLIBLE PROOFS AND THE CHURCH

The resurrection of Christ resulted in the development and growth of the church which is a world-wide and eternal entity!

- A. The Resurrection Empowered the Church to Function.
- B. The Resurrection Enabled the Church in Persecution.
- C. The Resurrection Energized the Church in Evangelism.

ILLUSTRATION:

CONCLUSION: For nearly 2000 years the RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST was recognized and accepted by most people around the world. It has only been since the rise of liberalism and secularism in the last 150 that so many have attempted to deny the RESURRECTION OF JESUS! But no matter how much those who deny the RESURRECTION OF JESUS attempt to promote their propaganda, THE FACT REMAINS THAT JESUS CHRIST AROSE FROM THE DEAD, AND HE IS ALIVE FOR EVERMORE AND THOSE WHO DENY THAT TRUTH WILL SOMEDAY STAND FACE TO FACE WITH HIM AND WILL DENY IT NO MORE.....UNFORTUNATELY IT WILL BE TOO LATE FOR THEM! (PHILIPPIANS 2:9,10)

APPLICATION: BELIEVE THE MESSAGE OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST AND ALLOW HIM TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOR ETERNITY!