

# HIS RESURRECTION

By Keith Greer

“And declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.” {Romans 1:4}

One of the strongest evidences of the Deity of Christ was the fact of His resurrection from the dead. This is **supreme divine testimony**. We will look at the evidence, eyewitnesses and the skeptics' explanations. Then you can decide for yourself.

Did He die? "But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out." {John 19:33,34} Romans were experts at putting men to death. Could they have made a mistake? No!

"And Nicodemus, who at first came to Jesus by night, also came, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury." {John 19:39,40}

If you read Matthew 27:59- 66, they rolled a great stone in front of the tomb, sealed it with a Roman signet and placed guards around the tomb. Yes, Jesus was dead.

How do some try to explain the empty tomb? "But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus." {Luke 24:2,3}

Two questions must be answered. Who rolled away the stone? If the body was stolen, as some claim, who did it and why?

Did the disciples steal the Lord's body? What did they do when He was arrested? Matthew 26:56. How did they get past the guards? Would they break the Roman seal, which was punished by death? Please read Matthew 28:11-15. If the Jews stole it, when word of the resurrection started to spread, what would they have done? Produced the body! Who put the guards by the grave?

What about His appearances after His resurrection? Let us look at some of them.

In John 10:11-18, He first appears to Mary Magdalene. Then to a group of woman, Matthew 28:9,10. Two men traveling from Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, talked with Him. Luke 24:11-35. He also appeared to Simon Peter, Luke 24:34; the disciples when they were assembled behind closed doors, John 20: 19-25; Luke 24:36-43. Did all these folks lie? Wonder who made sure they all told the same story to the officials – who was the master-mind of the hoax?

What about the miracles performed after His resurrection? Please John 21:5- 11; Luke 24:31,36.

Did these eye-witnesses give voluntary testimony? Why did Mary come to the grave on that Sunday morning? Read Mark 16:1. When Jesus appeared to her, who did she believe Him to be? Read John 20:15.

Did people believe the first reports? "And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them." {Luke 24:11} "And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe ... And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either." {Mark 16:11,13}

Why did they not believe the reports? Because they were not expecting Him to be alive! At one time they did not even believe in His presence, Luke 24:37,38. Pretty overwhelming evidence was surely available to be examined and considered. Are you convinced? \*\*\*