

Vintage Jesus 7

Did Jesus Truly Rise From Death?

Lecture

-All right tonight we're gonna ask one big gigantic question. Did Jesus truly rise from death? Let me pray and we'll get to work. Father God, thank you so much for an opportunity to examine the most important event in the history of the world. And that is the resurrection of the most important person in the history of the world. God, for all who hear this, I ask that if they do know the Lord Jesus, that this would build confidence in His resurrection, and if they have any questions or uncertainty, I pray that this would help move them toward a full faith and confidence that Jesus Christ alone has forgiven sin through conquering death and that they would come to a secure faith in Him now and forever in Jesus good name, amen. All right, well here's our question. Did Jesus truly rise from death? And major world religions that are founded by a person, what happens is, the person dies, there's a massive mourning and season of remembering, and then there's a burial. And wherever that person is in tomb, they build an enormous shrine for people to make pilgrimages from all over the world to come and pay their respects to their departed religious leader and religious founders. So I'll give you some examples. So Abraham founder of Judaism, that's where he's buried. It's pretty easy to find, you know exactly where he's at. And it is a holy site for Jewish people. In addition, Buddha, founder obviously of Buddhism, that's his tomb. It is massive. People travel from all over the world to pay their respects and holidays are commemorated around that sacred place or what they would deem to be sacred. In addition Islam, founded by Muhammad that's his burial site. It's a holy site and people travel from all over the world. The reason being they want to get close to their founder, but if he's dead, that's as close as you can get. In addition, it also becomes sort of the center for their religious headquarters and also it provides massive income as people make these pilgrimages to these holy sites. So there's all of these reasons why knowing exactly where someone is buried is very, very, very important to this day. We know where Jimmy Hendrix is buried, we know where various celebrities are buried and people will go visit their graves. When I went to Israel some years ago with the family, got off the plane, we had tour guide, archeologists, hired some scholars, some professors. All right, show me where Jesus was buried. And they're like, well, how about we take you to where he died first? Okay, that's fine. So they took me to this place, it's called Golgotha, the place of the skull. So in the previous lecture, we looked at the crucifixion of Jesus and it was in a place called Golgotha. And you can tell why they call it the place of the skull. Tell me if that doesn't look creepy. That looks like two eyes, a nose and you know, one of the guys from a Marvel comic had a kid. Who's the rock guy? I'm not a nerd. So I don't know, is it Marvel, is it DC? It's the thing, okay so there's the things kid right there. There it is. And what it is now, they believe that He was crucified at the very, very top, which today is a Muslim cemetery and you can't get access to it. Even just knowing where Jesus died, they have now sort of closed it off so that Christians can't go to that place. And what they built in front of it, the Muslims did, was a massive train depot or a bus depot I should say. And so you can't see where Jesus was crucified. You can't make a tour there. You can't get a photo there. I actually took this photo. I went to the bus depot and knocked on the door, said, I'd like to talk to the the highest ranking person here, he came out I said, I need to get a photo of Golgotha, the place of the skull, 'cause it's hard to get one. And he said, no, we're not allowed to do that. You know, we're Muslim. You Christians want photos, the answer is no. I said, well, go get me your boss. He's like, I'm the boss. I said, no, there's gotta be a bigger guy here. So he's like, well, there is one guy ahead of me. So he went

and got that guy came down I said, I need to get on the roof. I need to get a photo. And I kid you not is one of the craziest stories of my whole life. He said, you are the man of God. I was like, I don't know, I'm the dude that needs to take a photo. And he said, no, I went to bed last night. He was a Muslim, and he said, I had a dream that a man of God was going to show up at work today and ask to take a photo and then I needed to let him into the building. I kid you not. I was like, yeah, that's me for sure. So I went up to the roof. For sure that's me. So I went up to the roof and he's like, please hurry, please hurry 'cause if we get caught, I'm gonna lose my job. So he took us all the way up through the multiple levels of the bus depot, and then in his office was a little stairwell up to the roof, and I went up to the roof and snapped this photo. That's where Jesus was crucified. Question, where was He buried? Nobody knows, nobody knows. Now they would like to know because everybody goes there asking that question. You could have religious, imagine Easter at Jesus' empty tomb. I mean, you could send your kids to college off of that. That's a major income stream. And there's a lot of religious tourism in the middle east. And I asked, I said, but where was Jesus buried? And they said, we don't know. We have a rock, hole in the wall, we, it was like that. How about we take you there? So you give them your money and they take you in and you go in and you come out of just a hole in the rock I mean, we live in Arizona, you can find one of these anywhere. It's just a hole and a rock, and you get a photo and pretend like you're coming out of the tomb and they said, we have no idea, no idea where Jesus was buried. Why? Nobody went back there. If you walk away, people don't come back. This is the big distinction between Christianity and every other religion philosophy and ideology and spirituality. Is our founder that are alive. If He's dead, we're like everybody else. If He's alive, He's like nobody else, amen. So this is the big issue. So I'm gonna answer a succession of questions. The first one is, what is resurrection? 1 Corinthians 15 is the great New Testament chapter about resurrection, Jesus' resurrection and resurrection for those who believe in Him. And Paul says it this way in 1 Corinthians 15:17, "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile" Worthless, garbage a waste of time. If Jesus is dead, Christianity is dead. There's no need to be devoted to someone who failed. There's no one, if there's no one who's defeated death then there's no hope beyond the grave. I mean, all of Christianity is really founded on this premise, Jesus is alive and if He's not alive, everything, all of Christianity, all the churches, all of it is just an absolute, utter waste of time, energy, and money. "And you're still in your sins." And so really, resurrection is this. Someone was physically alive, physically dead for a period of time and then returned back to life, never to die again. This is the difference between resurrection and what I'll call, well being resurrected or being revived. Someone who's revived, they were dead, brought back maybe they had a near death experience, maybe they died for a while and then somehow came back, but they die again. They die again. Like there's a guy in the Bible named Lazarus, Jesus' friend, Jesus rose him from death, but he was revived, not resurrected. How do we know? He's still dead today? If Lazarus was walking around, that would be a resurrection. But as it is, ultimately, he died never to return to life. So that being said, I'm gonna get into 22 reasons to believe in Jesus resurrection. You've got it in your notes. Some of you were asking, is there any way in an hour he can cover 22 points? I would really doubt it, we'll see I'll let you know in about an hour. But what I wanna do is I wanna do something that is building a cumulative case. Looking at all the lines of reason and evidence and belief. And the reason I wanna do that is because some of you will find certain things more compelling than others. And as a result, I wanna give it all to you so that you have the greatest case for the resurrection. And as people have questions or objections, you can answer those for them. Number one, Jesus' resurrection was prophesied in the Old Testament. 1,000 BC, 1,000 years before Jesus walked on

the earth, Psalms 16:10 says, "you will not abandon me to the grave nor let your Holy One." So there's only one who's holy, so out of all human history, everybody's gonna die. But the Holy One won't see decay. He will die, His body will go into the grave, but He will not decay. The Holy One. In addition, 700 years before Jesus walked the earth, Isaiah 53:7-11 says. "He was oppressed, He was afflicted like a lamb that is led to the slaughter." Clearly denoting his death. "By oppression and judgment, He was taken away, He was cut off from the land of the living." What is that? He's dead. "stricken for the transgression of my people, yet they made His grave with the wicked." So Jesus would be crucified between two thieves and with the rich man in his death. So here they are giving us in advance, the prophet Isaiah is, Jesus' burial would be in a rich man's tomb though Jesus Himself was a poor man. Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush Him, He was put to grief, when His soul makes an offering for guilt. After He's paid the penalty for our sins, He shall see His offspring, He shall prolong his days. What is that? He's gonna die, and after He's finished His work of forgiveness and salvation, He's gonna come back. "Out of the anguish of His soul, He shall see and be satisfied." So after His suffering, "There will be living by His knowledge, shall the righteous one, my servant make many to be accounted righteous, and He shall bear their iniquities." 1,000 years before Jesus was born, 700 years before Jesus was born. The prophets in the Old Testament said He's gonna die, He'll be put in a grave, not just that, but the grave of a rich man, but His body won't decay. He'll rise from death and He will see and live forever. All of that was said in advance. In addition, when Jesus arrives on the scene, He repeatedly, openly, publicly tells us I'm gonna die, and I'll be back in three days. I could give you dozens and dozens and dozens of examples. But here, Mark 8, 9, 10. Mark 8:31, "He began to teach them that the son of man," that's the title for Himself from Daniel "must suffer many things, be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes." He actually tells exactly who is going to conspire to kill Him, "and be killed," so that's death "and after three days, rise again." Some of you might ask, well, if Jesus died on a Friday and He rose on a Sunday, how's that three days? And what it is, is for the Jews, a day starts at night with sundown and any part of the day is considered a total day. And so that would be for them since it was part of Friday, part of Saturday or all of Saturday, rather, and part of Sunday, that would denote and constitute the three days. Jesus says this much, He says, as Jonah was in the belly of a fish for three days and three nights, so will the son of man be. He uses Jonah as a prophetic prediction of His resurrection. Mark 9:31 "The son of man is going to be delivered into the hands of men and they will, "they're gonna kill Him, and when He is killed," very clear that He's gonna die, "After three days, He will rise." And then Mark 10:33-34, "The son of man will be delivered over to the chief priests." So religious leaders, scribes, additional religious leaders. "They will condemn Him to death, they will deliver Him over to the Gentiles." So it's actually predicting that the Roman government would be working with the religious leaders to put Him to death. "They will mock Him, spit on Him, flog Him and kill Him." Very specific details. And after three days," what's He gonna do? "He's gonna rise" So the Old Testament said, He's gonna die and rise in our place, for our sins as our Savior, and then Jesus comes and says, that's me, it's happening now. We're headed toward that death and resurrection that was promised and prophesied. And then here's the third point that is that ultimately, Jesus died. And we'll deal with this if we have time at the end with some of the alternative theories, but let me just tell you this, Jesus died. Just look at what happened to Him. He was arrested, sleepless night, dehydrated, did not eat, a mob of angry men covered His eyes and just beat Him, gave Him a vicious beating. Then they had Him flogged, we talk about that when we discuss the cross. Many men simply died from the scourging and the flogging. They just died from that. And then He carried the Roman crossbar and He fell face

first, chest contusion, we talked about that, and how it causes trauma to the heart. And then when they finally get Him to the place of crucifixion, Roman soldiers whose entire job is to put people to death, that's their whole job. They nail Him through the most sensitive nerve centers, the hands and the feet. They guarantee that He is dead. And when He is dead, to make sure He is dead, they ran a spear underneath His rib cage, punctured his heart sack, so that water and blood flowed from His side. Let me just tell you this. If they run a spear through your heart, it's over. And then they wrapped Him in burial linens and spices, almost a mummified state, and we'll deal with it in a moment. And then they put Him in a cold dark tomb hidden out of rock. Question, is that guy dead? That guy is dead. I mean, the flogging could kill you, the crucifixion will surely kill you. The spear through your heart is for sure gonna kill you. And somehow if you made it without a heart, being mummified and put in a tomb with no medical care for a few days, you're dead, you're dead. So Jesus died. And then Jesus' tomb was in a location that was well-known Luke 23:50-53; "Now there was a man named Joseph from the Jewish town of Arimathea," so he's Joseph of Arimathea. "He was a member of the council." What this means is, he's a well-known public leader. He's got profile. This would be like someone that's running for a political office in your city or state. Or this is someone who holds a high up position in business, or some religious hierarchy. He was a public figure, he was well-known. "a good and righteous man, he loved the Lord, who had not consented to their decision and action." He saw what happened to Jesus and he didn't agree. "And he was looking for the kingdom of God." This guy had an open heart to Jesus and he loved Jesus, and he thought that Jesus was mistreated. "This man went to pilate and asked for the body of Jesus." See, Jesus' parents are peasants. They can't really afford the kind of burial that would be appropriate for a man of Jesus' stature. Jesus Himself didn't have much money in His ministry. And the bit that He did have, much of it was stolen from Judas Iscariot. So this man says, well, I love Jesus, and I follow Him. He was more of a quiet, distant disciple, but he decides I'm gonna honor Jesus in His death. So I'm gonna go get the body and prepare it for burial. And this was their way of honoring the body of the dead. If you really didn't love someone and you wanted to dishonor them, you would not prepare the body for death. He loves Jesus and he wants to honor Him. So he's going to prepare the body for death. And just real quickly too, who had oversight of the body? Pilate. Who sentenced Him to death? Pilate. Who had to guarantee He was dead? Pilate. And if you go retrieve the body, it's obvious that it's a dead body. "Then he took it down and he wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid it in a tomb cut in stone where no one had ever been laid." I don't get into all of it there, but ultimately this was the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. It was, if you read the rest, it says that it was his personal tomb. He had bought it for his own burial. When Jesus died, he gave it to Jesus that fulfilled the prophecy in Isaiah 53, 700 years prior, that He would be buried with the rich in His death. So Jesus is buried in a rich man's tomb in a very affluent burial ground, though He Himself could not afford it. The prophecy was fulfilled because the God who knows the rules of the future saw the action of Joseph of Arimathea to give his own tomb to Jesus. See the intersection of all of the specific prophecies about Jesus. That being said, the tomb was in a well-known location. So at this point, who knows where the tomb is? Well, Joseph of Arimathea does and he's a public figure, easy to find. It's a registered piece of land. Those of you who own your home, you've got a deed and a parcel number. It's like that. It's legal that he owns this piece of property and it's legally registered to him. In addition, pilate and the government knows where He is going to be buried. They release the body to go into that burial spot. In addition, family and friends would have visited the grave. I mean his mother Mary, disciples, like John the beloved were at His feet as He died. You can assume, like any loving mother or good friend, once He is buried, they would go

to the place where He was laid to rest. Plus, He's also a very well-known public figure. I mean, remember the, you remember when princess Diana died? The whole world stopped, everybody came out in mourning and just sort of covered the street with flowers. I mean, it was, everyone knew that she had passed and there was a great mourning for those who loved her. And everyone knew where she was being laid to rest. This is what happens to people who are very beloved and also widely known. Number five, Jesus' tomb was then guarded by the Roman government. Which this means, the Roman government knows exactly where He's buried 'cause they're guarding it. Matthew 27:62-66, "The chief priests, religious leaders, and the Pharisees and pilate," Let me say, this is an incredible alliance. The religious leaders and the political leaders, the Jewish leaders and the Roman leaders, they hated each other. Constant conflict, but they align to murder Jesus. This was architected by Judas Iscariot. And when Judas architected this, it didn't happen quickly. He had to be working on this for a while because there was a legal warrant, There were witnesses set up, there was a kangaroo court in the middle of the night. All of this was architected well in advance. So everyone is involved. Everyone from religious to political leaders wants to ensure that Jesus is dead. So they are guaranteeing that He's dead. And they wanna know where He is buried because they knew that there was this rumor that he would come back in three days, and they wanted to make sure that nobody stole the body and pretended like He had risen from death. So all of the cumulative case points to the fact that Jesus died, was buried and everyone knew exactly where He was laid to rest. "Pilate said, sir, we remember how that imposter said while He was still alive. After three days, I will rise. Therefore, order the tomb to be made secure till the third day, lest His disciples go and steal Him away and tell the people, He is risen the dead." What are they worried about? A fake resurrection, a fake resurrection. "And the last fraud will be worse than the first pilate said to them, you have a guard of soldiers, go make it as secure as you can." If you tell a deployment of soldiers to go make something as secure as they can, it's secure. "So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard." So they roll over the entrance, a massive large stone, and then they put the seal of the Roman government on it, and then they put armed soldiers in front of it to guard it. There's only one way in and out. It was guarded and well-known. Number six, Jesus' empty tomb was found by women. And so, upon the resurrection of the dead on a Sunday, it's the reason that we meet as a church on Sunday across the world, Luke 24:1-3,10 "On the first day of the week," that Sunday, the third day, at early dawn, so that is the beginning of the third day in the Jewish understanding. They went to the tomb, taking the spices they had prepared and they found the stone" What? Stone's gone, but question, did the women know exactly where to go? Yeah, because it was very well known where Jesus' body was buried. They show up, they found the stone rolled away, but when they went in, so they walk in kinda one of those, this is different, they did not find the body of the Lord. And it tells us who it was. It was Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. Now, if this was not historically accurate, but it was falsified, you wouldn't have women being the ones first arriving at the empty tomb. Here's why, women couldn't legally testify in court. Women didn't have the same legal rights as men. Generally, they didn't own property, they didn't vote and they didn't testify in court. So if you were going to create a myth or a lie that Jesus rose from death, the last thing you would do is have it all riding on witnesses who are not legally able to testify. Instead, you would have chosen men, but God chose women to honor women because these women are apparently the most devoted to Jesus, they arrive at the tomb first. It just goes to show that if it was a manufactured story, it wouldn't follow this storyline. Since it's an actual story, it follows the actual storyline. Number 7, Jesus' disciples

were transformed following His resurrection from cowards to courageous. We see that as Jesus is going to the cross, Peter denies Him. Does not want anything to do with suffering for Jesus. In addition, we see that Jesus disciples before He raises from the dead, and reappears to them, they're a little concerned that they're going to be in trouble with the government and the religious officials. So basically they go into hiding, they're a little scared. Understandably so. If there's one leader, 12 leaders that are under that leader for a movement and they kill the leader, the other 12 guys are like, yeah we should probably exit stage left at this point. In addition, there was a man named Thomas who was a doubter and they told him, hey, Jesus is alive. He said, I won't believe it unless I see it myself. And then he sees Jesus with crucifixion scars, risen from death, he falls down and worships Jesus and says, "My Lord and my God." The point is, that they were very cowardly and suspicious until they saw Jesus risen from death. And then they were very courageous. Later in life, when they came to Peter near the end of his life history, outside of the Bible records, they came to him and they said, "Peter, if you don't deny Jesus, we're going to crucify you." We know you can deny Him you've done it before. But he denied Jesus before he saw Jesus risen from death. After he saw Jesus risen from death, he no longer feared death. So Peter told them, feel free to crucify me, but I'm not worthy to be crucified like my Lord, crucify me upside down. How does a guy go from denying Christ to dying for Christ? How does a guy go from terrified of death to not even concerned about death? He saw that Jesus had defeated death. And the same was true for the other disciples and apostles. And then after His resurrection, Jesus appeared to crowds upwards of 500 people over the course of 40 days. That's a massive number of eyewitnesses and in that day before we had cell phones and photography and videography, everything sort of hinged on eye witness testimony and still does in the courts today. 1 Corinthians 15:3-6 "I delivered to you as of first importance." And he's talking here about the gospel of Jesus Christ. And what he's saying is that of all the information that has ever been communicated in the history of the world, there is one fact that is most important. It is altogether preeminent, and that is the death, burial, resurrection of Jesus. It's of first importance. I like to say that there are doctrines that are closed-handed and open-handed. The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ for our sins according to the scripture, first of importance, closed hand. This is the heart of all that Christians believe. "I delivered to you as first of importance what I also received," that the gospel of Jesus is to be handed down faithfully and not edited, altered in anyway. That Christ died for our sins We looked at that, we looked at that in the previous lecture. Christ died for our sins. The Bible continually uses that word for the righteous, for the unrighteous. Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures. I showed you two of them from the Old Testament, that He was buried, that He raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures. Then He appeared to Cephas, that is Peter, then to the 12, the rest of the disciples. Then he appeared to more than 500 at a time, 500 at a time. Many of these people lived in small towns. A gathering of 500 people was a big deal. That's a public, that's a public testimony. Jesus showed up publicly and hundreds of people came out to see him. And the Bible says that He ate food and he gave hugs and they touched Him. And they evidenced that he was physically alive. "Most of whom are still alive though some have fallen asleep." What he's saying is this has been written so close to the resurrection event, that those 500 people, the majority of them are still alive, if you would like to verify the facts. Now, today, there are some events that happen that there are very few living survivors. Like here in America, there are very few living survivors of Pearl Harbor. Because there's been so much time between the event and today. In that day, that timeframe was so short. The majority of the eyewitnesses were alive to testify. So this wasn't a secret. This was a public fact. Number nine, Jesus followers remained

loyal to Him. Now think about it, the day that Jesus was crucified, two men were crucified with Him, okay? What are their names? Nobody knows. What religions did they get? Nothing. Do we celebrate their birthdays? No. Just like everyone else who died, they were forgotten. Except for one man, Jesus Christ. Following his death, the largest movement of any sort or kind in the history of the world sprang into existence. The Christian Church. Christians, people who were followers of Christ initially, they saw Him die and they remained loyal and devoted to Him. Now, if He was dead, convicted as a criminal, hated by religious leaders and murdered by political leaders, why in the world would you follow that guy? That's suicide. Unless he defeated death. And all of a sudden the followers of Jesus, they no longer feared death. And so they remained steadfastly loyal to Him. In addition, Jesus followers worshiped Him as God. The early Christians, the first Christians were almost exclusively Jewish. They knew the 10 commandments, the first is there's only one God. The second is you only worship that God. And all of a sudden, they start worshiping Jesus as God. These are devout religious people, and part of it is you need to look at their motive. If they are lying, what benefit is it to them? They will be rejected by their families, disowned by the synagogues, hated by the government. Maybe lose the family business and inheritance. Maybe even be arrested or crucified like Jesus. I don't know about you. When I tell a lie, it usually benefits me, amen. Anybody like me? I usually don't tell lies that don't benefit me. Like if a bank is robbed, I wouldn't call and say, I did it if I didn't do it. Why would they remain loyal to Jesus, why would they worship Jesus, why would they serve Jesus? If there was no benefit to them, unless it was true. So the only reasonable explanation. In addition, Jesus family worshiped him as God. Prior to Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, His family thought He had lost his mind. Right? They thought He was crazy. He was preaching and teaching and they came and they said, your mother, brothers, your family is here, they wanna take you home. They've got an appointment for you, maybe some meds, you know, you need a break, you need a break. And what He said is my mother and brothers are those who do the will of God. So even as family, before He rose from death, they didn't think He was altogether. But after He rose, they saw that everything He said was true. Think about it for a moment. How many of you have a brother? Would you worship him as God and found a religion for him?

- [Congregation] No. Would you publicly testify he is without sin? No, okay. So you all chuckle. That's how we know who has a brother. You're like, no, if you told me he was Satan, I would believe that. Yeah, I believe he was the devil, yeah not the Lord. How many of you women have a son? Any of you moms? How many of you moms would not start a religion for your son? How many of you would not publicly say he never did anything wrong, he was literally perfect. Couldn't do it. Yet what we find is, Jesus' brothers and His mother, His devout Jewish family, after the resurrection, they leave the synagogue and the Jewish faith, they start meeting in the upper room. They devote themselves to worshiping Jesus who was brother and son as God. It says it this way, "Then after Jesus' Ascension" Acts 1:12-14, "they returned to Jerusalem, and when they had entered, they went up to the upper room where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas Bartholomew and Matthew James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the zealot and Judas the son of James." That's a different Judas than Judas Iscariot. And that dude was really bummed. I'm a disciple of Jesus. What's your name? Judas. Oh, I heard about you. I'm the other Judas, I'm the... I'm the other Ben Lauden, I'm the other Hussein. Like come on, man. "All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer

together with the women" And who's there? In the upper room, the early church, the first worshipers of Jesus, Mary His mama and His brothers. Cause effect, if Jesus is dead, what is His mother doing, And what are His brothers doing? Joining to worship Him as God. Number 13, Jesus' followers changed the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday. It says this in Revelation 1:10 John says; "I was in the spirit on the Lord's day" That's Sunday. "And I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet." God's people since creation had gathered together for their Sabbath day on Saturday. As soon as Jesus rose from the dead, the Sabbath became the Lord's day. Who's the Lord? It's the Lord Jesus. What day did He rise? Sunday. And Sunday became the Lord's day. So they transitioned from the Sabbath day to the Lord's day on Sunday. Again, this is hardwired into creation. In Genesis, six days, God created. Seventh day, God rested. 10 commandments, six days you labor, seventh day you rest. This had been their entire calendar throughout the entire history of humanity. And then it changes. Question, why? If one guy died, why change the whole calendar and why rewrite the Old Testament and why reapply the 10 commandments? There's no reason apart from the resurrection. It's why, and Christians can meet any day or time the New Testament says, but it is why many, if not most churches meet on Sunday and they meet in the morning 'cause it was on a Sunday morning that Jesus rose from the dead. And this would have been very inconvenient, just tangentially because in the early church, Sunday was your Monday, it was your work day. So if you were going to start worshiping on Sunday and you're Jewish, everything is set up for Saturday worship and Sabbath. If you move it to Sunday, that means you either need to meet probably early in the morning or late at night, 'cause during the day, if you're still on the Jewish calendar, working in a Jewish company or for a family business, Sunday is your Monday, it's your workday. It would have been very inconvenient. It would have been very complicated and difficult, and it would have broken with everything that God had taught them since creation. The question is why would they make that shift? Because Jesus was alive and He changes everything with His resurrection. Jesus' followers, practiced communion and baptism. I won't get into all the scriptures for the sake of time. But communion shows us Jesus' death, broken body, shed blood in our place for our sins. This is what He told us at the last supper, which was Him serving the Passover meal to His disciples, and all of a sudden they took the Passover meal. It became the last supper, it became then the Lord's table, and when we partake of bread, we remind ourselves of Jesus' broken body. And when we drink a wine or juice, depending upon what tradition you're in, we remember His blood shed for us. And so communion is about the death of Jesus. Baptism is about the resurrection of Jesus. In baptism, we are saying, I trust Jesus died, was buried and rose. Therefore, as I go under the water, I am showing what Jesus did going under the earth. And I'm showing in the future that the same Jesus who rose from death is going to rise me from death as well. And just as water cleanses me from filth, so Jesus cleanses me from the filth of sin. So all of a sudden, the two sacraments, to use that language of the Christians, communion and baptism. If Jesus died and didn't rise, they make no sense whatsoever because His death would have accomplished nothing if He remained dead. But He didn't, He rose, therefore, all of a sudden Christians are all about Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. That's our thing. And throughout the totality of the book of Acts, if you look at the sermons in the book of Acts, every single time, it talks about the resurrection of Jesus. All of Christianity came based upon the resurrection of Jesus, including these sacraments. And then we start seeing people converted that had absolutely no prior interest in Jesus whatsoever. Like Saul of Tarsus, who later became known as Paul. Jesus' enemy Paul was converted. 1 Corinthians 15:8-9; Paul here is writing and he's giving his own personal testimony. Last of all, he, and in context of 1 Corinthians 15, the whole chapter is about the resurrection. "The risen Jesus

appeared also to me, Paul, for I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God." So here's Saul of Tarsus. He is a religious terrorist, that's what we would call him today. He would be a guy, if he showed up at the airport, all the alarms would be pulled, all the gates would be shut. Okay, he is a terrorist mastermind. Regarding early Christianity, he is like a Osama bin Laden, he is like Saddam Hussein. They would have considered him like Al-Qaeda. He was a religious terrorist meaning because of his religious devotion, he terrorized Christians. The Bible tells us that he would go, Luke the historian in the New Testament tells us in the Bible, he would go to houses and just harass and beat and even arrest Christians. His thing was, I wanna hurt people who love Jesus. That was his commitment. One of the first things that we see regarding this is in the book of Acts, which is the history book of the New Testament, there's a group of angry religious terrorists and they all sort of take their cloaks off and set them down to go stone and murder an early church leader named Stephen. And they would have laid all of their cloaks, their outer garments, so they could throw rocks and stone him at the feet of the leader whose feet did they lay all their cloaks at? Saul, he was the alpha, he was the terrorist mastermind. And as Stephen is dying, it says that he looked up into heaven and he prayed for Saul, just like Jesus prayed for us. And he prayed that Saul would be forgiven just like on the cross, Jesus prayed that we would be forgiven. And it says that then Stephen saw heaven open and he saw the Lord Jesus standing. He sees into the unseen realm. In scripture, Jesus is always shown seated on a throne. That's the great language of the Bible. He's always seated on a throne, why did Jesus get off His throne? To honor Stephen for praying for the forgiveness of his enemy. The point is this, our God celebrates forgiveness, like a sports team celebrates a goal or a point. For God, points on the bar board for Him are in terms of forgiveness. And when Jesus saw Stephen praying that Saul would be saved and forgiven, Jesus got off His throne to cheer for Stephen. What I'm telling you is this, if you will pray for your enemies and extend forgiveness and love people, you will get a standing ovation from Jesus Christ. It's that big of a deal. And what he does then, Stephen leaves it in God's hands. Well, if you keep reading the book of Acts, it doesn't take long. Jesus comes down from heaven, knocks Paul off his horse, blinds him, I mean, thank Jesus just gets involved. He just does, He's like, I got this. And then Saul is blind, now he's very humbled. And he's like, who is it that is attacked me and blinded me? And He says, it's me Jesus. Jesus came down from heaven to deal with Saul of Tarsus. And then He says something very curious. Jesus does, He says, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Jesus loves you so much that when you suffer, He feels it. Jesus loves you so much that when you suffer He feels it. Especially if you're being persecuted for Him. Well then Saul gets converted. Now, initially the early Christians didn't believe it. They had their suspicions, amen. You're like, hey, Saul wants to come to our home group. Yeah, we're not meeting tonight, we're indefinitely not meeting, send them to Tony's group. The religious terrorist mastermind. In our day, this would be like Osama bin Laden or Saddam Hussein or some other terrorist mastermind saying I've met Jesus, I repent of my sin, I'd like to be baptized. Can I join your church? And all the pastors will be rock, paper scissors, no. All right, rock, paper scissors, no. Can you imagine him showing up at your small group. Hi to everybody. Close your eyes and bow your head. Nope, not this week, not this week, we're not doing that. Paying attention, right. Over time Saul proved that he really had changed and he had met Jesus. And he went from the most ardent opponent of Jesus to the most ardent defender of Jesus. He went from persecuting Christians to pastoring Christians. And it all happened because as he said, I went from persecuting the church to seeing the Lord Jesus risen from death. And I knew that I knew that I knew that I was wrong and that He was right. The question is what would cause someone who was a religious terrorist

to completely make a 180 degree turn with their entire being? Resurrection is the only thing that serves as a logical explanation. Number 16, Jesus' resurrection was recorded shortly after it occurred. Sometimes people will say events happen, and then it's like that old game, telephone. You tell one person and they tell someone else, and by the end, it's a totally different story. And so critics of the Bible will say, well yeah, Jesus lived, but then there was myth, legend, fable, folklore. There was such an extended period of time that all kinds of information got added and deleted and the resurrection was a later addition and a myth. Well, Paul told us in 1 Corinthians 15:6 "Then he appeared to more than 500 brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive though they've fallen asleep." What Paul is saying in Corinthians is this; Jesus rose from death and the people who saw it are still alive. What that means is there has not been sufficient time for myth, legend, fable, or folklore to occur. There's just no time period. Most of the New Testament scholars believe that 1 Corinthians 15, this whole section is an early Christian hymn that they sang in church. "I received, what I received I passed on to you first of importance that Christ died for our sins. According to the scripture that He was buried, and on the third day He rose in fulfillment of the scriptures." They believe that that was a hymn. It actually rhymes in a rhythmic pattern of song in the original Greek. And they believe that that was written in the mid to late '30s, right after Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. Within a few years. In addition, it is believed because of the sequential ordering of some of the historical events I won't get into the details, but it is believed that the Gospel of Mark was written as early, as mid to late '30s. Right after Jesus' death, burial and resurrection. Some years ago, when they found certain and manuscripts, they've been able to trace certain ancient manuscripts of the New Testament back to the first century. There's a guy I think his name is Carsten Peter Thiede. He wrote this in a book called "Eye Witnesses to Jesus." And he says that he has sections of the gospel account of the resurrection, That would go all the way back to the late '30S. So there just wasn't time. There wasn't time for some story to get construed or misconstrued because it was recorded so quickly after the event. And then the eyewitnesses were available to confirm what was recorded. In addition, Jesus' resurrection is unique in history. How many of you have heard, oh a lot of religions believe in resurrection and not actually, they don't. N.T. Wright, I've got this in your notes, he studied at Oxford, he taught at St. Andrews and he wrote a book called "The Resurrection of the Son of God." It's like seven or 800 pages. It's big. It is the most significant research to me, ever written on the resurrection. He goes to all of the original source work. He is a scholar of the first rank and on the resurrection, in my opinion, this is the best book that has ever been written on the evidence for the resurrection. I'll read his quote to you, and what he does, he goes back to ancient Greek literature. He looks at all the original source material. And again, we get a lot of our philosophy and spirituality from the Greeks. Their mythology and their philosophy. After looking at all the original source material, here's his conclusion; "In so far as the ancient non-Jewish world had a Bible, it was Homer. And in so far as Homer has anything to say about resurrection, he is quite blunt, it doesn't happen. Athenian dramatist, Aeschylus," I'll just say it fast to pretend like I know how to say his name 'cause I went to public school, "wrote once a man has died and the dust is soaked up his blood, there is no resurrection." According to Wright, "Neither in Plato nor Aristotle did we find any suggestion that resurrection, the return to bodily life of the dead person was either desirable or possible." It goes on to say, "Christianity was born into a world where its central claim was known to be false. Many believed the dead were non-existent outside of Judaism." Nobody believed in a resurrection and Wright concludes, "nobody in the pagan world of Jesus' day and thereafter actually claimed that someone had been truly dead and then had come to be truly and bodily alive once more." Here's what Wright says, I

looked at everything, all of the original source material, there is no report or even a consideration of resurrection in any ancient pagan religion, philosophy, spirituality, or ideology, that's what he's summarizing. The only people that had a concept of resurrection were the Jews. And they would have taken it from places like Daniel 12:2 Daniel 12:2 says that multitudes that sleep in the dust of the earth will arise, some to everlasting life, some to everlasting death. The Jewish concept of resurrection was that all of God's people would raise together in the end. The Jewish people had no concept that one person would rise in the middle of history. So the Greeks had no concept of resurrection. The Jews had no concept of a singular resurrection. Furthermore, I would go so far as to say this when he says that the Greeks did not even find it desirable, the Greeks held a philosophy that is called dualism. And dualism is that you are a physical body and a spiritual soul. That the soul is good, and that the body is bad. So the highest aim of Greek philosophy and spirituality was that you would die and that you would shed your body and that your soul can live free of your body. Think of it in this way, Imagine you, I'll use a burrito as an example, 'cause I love burritos. So when you get a burrito, it has a wrapper on it. How important is that wrapper to you? It's just important for a short bit, right? And once it's served its purpose, you're done with the wrapper. The body is like the wrapper that contains the soul, which is really the treasure. And as a result, once you die, your body is like a wrapper. Just like you would throw a wrapper in the garbage, that's how they viewed the human body. You just throw it in the ground, so the soul can be free. In fact, in the Greek world of dualism where the body is bad and the soul is good, not only did they not believe in a resurrection, that for them would have been horrific and worst case scenario. So it was against the complete antithesis of everything they would have believed along for. So this whole concept of resurrection is completely unique in history, especially one individual rising in the middle of history. In addition, Jesus' resurrection is verified by history. So I've got here in your notes, this great truth; Josephus, he was a Jewish historian, born a few years after Jesus died. His most celebrated passage is this. So Josephus is a Jewish historian. He says this, and he writes "In the first century about that time there lived Jesus, a wise man, if indeed one ought to call Him a man. For He was one who wrought surprising feats," that's miracles, "was the teacher, rabbi of such people that accept the truth gladly. He went over many Jews, and many Greeks, He was the Christ" When pilate historical confirmation of the leader who oversaw the death, "upon hearing Him accused by men of the highest standing among 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," here's the line, "On the third day, He appeared to them, restored to life. for the prophets of God had prophesied these and countless other marvelous things about Him, we hit two of those, "and the tribe of Christians so-called after Him has not disappeared." The Jewish leaders wanted to know there's this group that saying they're Christians. We're not sure what they're about. Could you go investigate that? He's like, I investigated, there was a guy named Jesus who did miracles and the government put him to death, and three days later He conquered death and Christians really love Him. So they meet on Sunday. Just a historian telling the facts. He himself was not a Christian, but he is a well-regarded ancient historian. Suetonius was a Roman historian, an analyst of the Imperial house. Here's what he says, punishment or persecution was inflicted on the Christians, a class of men given to a new and mischievous superstition. He said there was an outpouring of persecution against the Christians because they were given to this mischievous superstition, the resurrection. They keep saying that this guy defeated death. So we keep punishing them and they keep remaining loyal to Him because they no longer fear death. Because He conquered death. And then lastly Pliny the Younger, he was the governor Bithynia in North western Turkey early in the

second century, he wrote a letter to the emperor Trajan and he says, "I had never been present at an examination of Christians." What he says is, Christians meet because they're persecuted in a private way, so I've not made it to one of their services. "Consequently, I do not know the nature or the extent of the punishments usually meted out to them nor the grounds for starting an investigation and how far it should be pressed. They also declared that the sum total of their guilt or error amounted to more than this." He said, here's what Christians do. "They met regularly before dawn," when did Jesus rise? At Dawn so they get together before dawn and they're worshiping as the sun comes up because they're worshiping the Son who came up, the Son of God at sunrise, the sun rose "on a fixed day to chant verses, worship alternately among themselves in honor of Christ as if to God." I go investigate Christians. What are they doing? He's like, I don't know, they get up early on Sunday before work and they celebrate this guy named Jesus who conquered death. And they sing worship songs to Him. Historical records referring back to the resurrection of Jesus and there is various political and religious leaders asked, what's this group about? They would go investigate, come back and say Jesus defeated death. And so that's how this group came into existence. A couple of last things, Jesus church has stood the test of time. And he says this in Matthew 16:17-21; "Jesus answered, I will build my church, The church belongs to Jesus, it belongs to Jesus "and the gates of hell will not prevail against it." Gates are defensive. The church is supposed to be offensive, the people are held in slavery and bondage to sin and death. And the church is supposed to go kick the gates in like a military force and God uses us to set captives free. "From that time, Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, suffer many things from the elders, the chief priests and scribes. Be killed and on the third day rise." He said, I'm gonna build my church on my resurrection. I'm gonna build my church on my resurrection. Now, here we are, a few thousand years later, did Jesus build His church? Unbelievable, the greatest movement of any sort or kind, largest, longest lasting, most global multinational and multilingual movement of any sort or kind in the history of the world. And it probably sounded odd for a 30 something year old poor virgin to say I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it. That's a big statement from a homeless broke virgin in His 30s. But He said the resurrection would make that all possible, which it has. Jesus is alive and changing lives to this day. This is your personal testimony if you're a believer. How many of you, Jesus is alive and He changed your life? Like, all right, well who forgave my sin, who changed my nature? Who gave me the Holy Spirit? I mean like if He's dead, who did this work in my life? This is where your personal testimony is a witness to the life of Jesus, which continues to change lives. Jesus' resurrection predates the odd pagan versions of resurrection. I'll hit this real quickly. N.T. Wright says this; "Christianity was born into a world where its central claim was known to be false. Many believe that the dead were nonexistent outside Judaism, nobody believed in resurrection, nobody in the pagan world of Jesus' day claimed that someone had been dead and rise." Edwin Yamauchi, a story to the first note, you've got here is, his resume there, He says; "There is no definitive evidence for any pagan religion teaching any concept of resurrection, until after the second century." Those who would say Christians took the idea of resurrection from the pagans, they've got it backwards. The pagans took the concept of resurrection from the Christians. Some will say, but these pagans have some sort of, and I've got some notes in there that'll explain it to you, but they'll have these weird kind of, sort of maybe-ish, death, burial, resurrection, it's always mythological figures, not historical figures. And there's some really strange and bizarre stories, not historical, factual, actual, evidential, but nonetheless, even those stories, they follow Christianity. Christianity predates them, meaning they borrow their concepts from Christianity. So it's the pagans who

stole the resurrection concept from Jesus. And then lastly, Jesus' resurrection defies any alternate explanation. The question is, okay, if Jesus is dead, what other option is there, amen? I mean, what other cause effect corollary is even a possibility? And so the burden of proof, if somebody comes and says, I don't agree. Well, then you need to give me a better alternative solution. It's one thing to just disregard something, but you've gotta give me a better hypothesis. So looking at all of the evidence, Thomas Arnold, he was a former professor of modern history at Oxford says, "No one fact in the history of mankind is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort than the fact that Christ rose from the dead." Let me ask one question. We missed slides, did I miss points? I did not. Did I miss 10? I thought I did, I have OCD. So here's what we're gonna do, I'm gonna hit point 10, go there on the slide please. And then we'll go to the end. We'll record it, they'll edit it later, and when it goes out, it'll look like I was seamless, which I'm not, okay? There you go! There you go. But I did catch my 10th point. Aren't you glad you don't have this job? What? No way, I love you with all my heart, that's not gonna happen. She said we lost power in the last eight minutes of content.

- [Congregation] Oh.

- So... Do you have it recorded? You don't? Where did it go, did it get raptured? Did we get left behind? What happened? The whole video rack went down. Jeez! That's why we shouldn't have got Fisher-Price gear. I'm telling you, we should have got the good stuff. All right, we'll figure it out later. I'm just gonna do, I'm doing it, I want, 'cause this point probably doesn't matter. So point 10, point 10 Jesus' tomb and I'll do the other points later, okay? Is that good? I can't see the boot, no one's saying anything, this is what I'm doing. Okay, I'm gonna do point 10 and then when you guys leave, I'll record the rest, we'll redo it again. Point number 10, Jesus' tomb was not enshrined. And so there's this historian named Edwin Yamauchi, he looked at all of the ancient evidence and he says that in the same region where Jesus died and was buried, at that same time that the tombs of 50 different holy men and religious leaders were enshrined, 50. Yet James Don says historian and theologian who looks at it, that there is no evidence of any kind that Jesus' tomb was ever venerated, okay? How many of you know where someone you love is buried? My grandpa George died when I was 10 years of age. I loved him with all my heart. I have nothing but good memories. He would put suckers in the glove box of his Buick, we would eat caramel apples together and go watch "Big Time Wrestling." I loved him with all my heart. So Jimmy Superfly Snuka, Andre the Giant, the Iron Sheik, Rowdy Roddy Piper. If you're tracking you're redneck. And he was a diesel mechanic and I loved him with all my heart. When my grandpa died at age 10 and was buried, I would ride my bike to the cemetery because I missed my grandpa. To this day, I could take you right to the cemetery and right to his grave. Even though I've not been there in many years, because he is so near and dear to my heart. If Jesus' tomb was not enshrined meaning nobody went back, lit a candle, set, a prayer, left a flower or a note. What does that tell you? He's not there. Look at all the people who loved and followed Jesus. No one returned to His grave. It was never enshrined. All right, Tyler you're gonna have to edit this. We'll go to the last slide. Pray for Tyler. And Tyler we need you to get a Pentecostal and lay hands on the technology, okay? We need some power in there. All right, so we'll

conclude with this, some of your questions. What are the primary objections to Jesus' resurrection? And so what I am saying is that the only reasonable alternative, or I'll say it this way, the only reasonable conclusion is Jesus' resurrection and that there is no viable alternative. But it doesn't mean that people haven't tried. So these are the primary alternative theories; the swoon theory, this one is held by Islam, many Muslim scholars and also Christian science. I always say about Christian science, there's no Christians or science. And it's like grape nuts. You open the box like there is no grapes, and I can't find the nuts. Christian scientists neither. But they will say along with Muslims, that Jesus swooned. What that means is He didn't die on the cross, He passed out and then he woke up in the tomb, got out of his burial wrappings, rolled the stone out, walked into town and said, see, I'm victorious. All right, how many of you think, yeah, that doesn't make any sense. Flogging, crucifixion, spear through the heart announced dead, wrapped in a mummified state, left in a cold tomb without medical care, food or water for days, wake up with no heart. Get yourself out of your burial wrappings, roll the massive stone out of the way with your crucified hands, walk into town on your crucified feet. Somehow overcoming the Roman guards and convincing everyone that you didn't die. That's not an alternative theory. I mean, it's just, even if you're, I mean, if you think it is, will you need to be drug tested. I mean, that's just not an alternative theory. How about this one? The Jehovah's witnesses say he had a spiritual, not a physical resurrection. That He rose spiritually, but not physically. After His resurrection, Thomas touched the crucifixion scars, said, "My Lord, my God." When Jesus showed up to His disciples at the end of Luke's gospel after His resurrection, they were having breakfast. What did He say? I'm starving. And He ate breakfast. And over the course, 1 Corinthians 15 says at 40 days groups of 500 came up and hugged Him and met Him and greeted Him. He was physically alive, He was physically alive. Some say, everyone went to the wrong tomb. Everyone went to the wrong tomb. Number one, even if they did, how is Jesus alive after His death? It really doesn't deal with the issue. Hey, Jesus was dead, He's alive, oh, they went to the wrong tomb. Okay whatever, He's alive. Let's talk about that first. Whether or not they went to the right or wrong tomb. If He was dead and He's alive, that's the issue. But again, who knew where Jesus was buried? Well, Joseph of Arimathea who was a well-known public figure, the Roman government who has fixed a seal to it and put soldiers in front of it, the women who showed up to the tomb to find it empty. Then the disciples who ran to the tomb to also find it empty. And we can assume and presume some of other followers of Jesus, including His mother. How many of you are women who love your kid and if they died, you would know where they were buried? It just, it doesn't hold any water. Jesus' body was stolen. This was the original Jewish explanation. Oh, they stole the body. No, wait a minute. Soldiers on guard, tomb sealed, Jesus dead. Even if they did steal the body, my question is how do they make it live? It still doesn't deal with the issue. Jesus was dead, now He's alive. They stole the body, okay whatever, they didn't. Well, let's just give you that assumption. So explain to me how it became alive, 'cause that's really the issue. Some say number five, Jesus had a body double. We're getting desperate now, amen. Get it? Y'all I don't know. I don't know, maybe there was, maybe He's like Hollywood send some lower paid actor to go die. A body double was one. So the question then is, how could Jesus have tricked His closest friends? How could Jesus have tricked His mother? Remember at the crucifixion? There are Jesus' disciples, there's Jesus' best friend John, and at the feet of Jesus cross is Jesus' mother. To assume that someone else died in His place, they would have to be so consistent to Jesus that they would fool His family and friends. In addition, when Jesus rose from death, Thomas investigated it. The doubter, what did he see in Jesus' hands and feet? He saw the scars of crucifixion. I mean it just, and then historically there's no evidence that

Jesus has had a twin or had a body double. Man, it's just trying to get around the obvious, because the obvious thing is that Jesus conquered death and Jesus is God. And then lastly, this is one of my favorites, that the resurrection was a massive group hallucination. Okay, don't raise your hand but how many of you at some point in your life have had a season of drug use? I told you not to raise your hand, but apparently you did a lot of drugs. And you just disobeyed me and raised your hand? When you have a hallucination, is it a public or private event? You ever had 500 people have the same hallucination? You're like, man, we all smoked weed, and the next thing we know, we were in a star Trek episode. It was crazy, all of us. Hallucination is a private, not a group event, amen. How many of you have had the flu? Okay, so we'll just get everybody involved now, not just the potheads. So for those of you that have had the flu, have you ever had the flu and kinda hallucinated a little bit? Did anyone else in your family share that exact same hallucination experience and what you witnessed? No, just the entire projection that it was a group hallucination. When it says in 1 Corinthians 15; That it was over the course of 40 days that He appeared to multiple groups, large and small, upwards of 500 people at a time. It just defies any sort of alternative explanation. The point is this, the compelling evidence points to one conclusion, Jesus lived, Jesus died, Jesus rose, Jesus is God. Any other explanation literally just doesn't make any sense. Close with this, what is the hope of Jesus resurrection? John 11:25. "Jesus said I am the resurrection and the life he who believes in me will live, even though he dies." Jesus is like, here's the deal, I conquered death, I came back to prove it. Trust me, I'll get you through death. I know what's on the other side and I've got a plan for you. And then He says this, 1 Corinthians 15:20-22, the apostle Paul, "In fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep" The language of the believers, is that they've fallen asleep because they're not tasting spiritual death separation from God. First fruits, meaning Jesus goes first, but then we're gonna follow Him "for as by a man came death," that's Adam, "by a man Jesus has come also the resurrection of the dead for as in all Adam die, So all in Christ shall be made alive." He says the same thing in 2 Corinthians, excuse me in Romans 5:12-21. And that is that all of humanity is ultimately in two categories; Adam or Jesus. If you're an Adam, you die. If in Jesus, if you're in Jesus, you live after death. It all comes down to Jesus. If Jesus defeated death, He is God, and if you trust in Him, you will defeat death because His death was for your sin. And His resurrection is your victory.