

Who Moved the Stone?



Upon the truth of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, lay the merits of Christianity. Some hating this truth so much, have come up with their own version (based on nothing more than their desire to believe what they want).

The first faulty theory is sometimes referred to as the “play-act” theory. Here, proponents claim that Jesus didn’t really die on the cross but that he simply pretended or appeared to be dead and then his disciples took him down, put him in the tomb, attended his wounds and then removed him to a safe location. The second scenario is similar but he did all of this on his own. Both require some or all of the following: Jesus endured the beatings at his trials, the crown of thorns,

the terrible scourging, the crucifixion, the spear thrust in his side, and somehow survived. On top of that the professional executioners, upon examining his body were satisfied that he was dead. His body was wrapped in linen along with 100 pounds of spices. In spite of great loss of blood, and many hours in the cold tomb without food, water or assistance, he revived. He managed to escape from the tightly wrapped grave clothes and spices and place them neatly in the tomb. He then broke the Roman seal, rolled the huge stone up an incline away from the opening, overcame the armed guards in his weakened condition, walked miles on pierced feet, and convinced his followers that he had conquered death as the resurrected Author of Life. This ludicrous theory would also have us believe that Jesus lived on after all this and died a natural death in obscurity while 11 of the twelve disciples were martyred to protect a known lie.

The bible tells the true story. Jesus suffered death by crucifixion. Jesus body was placed in a securely guarded tomb. Not only were the friends of Jesus startled to find an empty tomb with the stone rolled away, but the enemies of Jesus were so perplexed that they bribed the guards to say that the followers of Jesus stole the body. Upon finding out that the tomb was empty the disciples ran “neck and neck” to see the empty tomb for themselves. Why would they do that if they had been the ones to empty the tomb? After all this, Jesus was seen over a period of forty days by many eye-witnesses, even to a group of 500 at one point.

The evidence to the fact of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ is overwhelming and worthy of your study.

One interesting post-logic to this summary article is the story of a lawyer named Frank Morrison. Mr. Morrison set out to write a book showing why the resurrection could not possibly have taken place. In the process, he became convinced by the evidence for the resurrection, and then became a follower of Jesus. In the preface to his book Who Moved The Stone?, he wrote the following:

“...it is essentially a confession, the inner story of a man who originally set out to write one kind of book, and found himself compelled by the sheer force of circumstances to write quite another... Somehow the perspective shifted, not suddenly, as in a flash of insight or inspiration but slowly, almost imperceptibly, by the very stubbornness of the facts themselves.”

For a more detailed look, please read the biblical accounts of the death, burial and resurrection and then read “Who Moved the Stone”, “The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus” by Gary Habermas and “The Resurrection of Jesus: A New Historiographical Approach” by Mike Licona which are all highly recommended and all available at amazon.com For more free Bible based resources like this visit www.freebibletracts.org