

The Cross And The Empty Tomb

Historical Evidence For The Crucifixion And
Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The Eyewitness Testimony

Matthew 27:31, 33-35 After they had mocked Him, they took the scarlet robe off Him and put His own garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him... And when they came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of a Skull, they gave Him wine to drink mixed with gall; and after tasting it, He was unwilling to drink. And when they had crucified Him, **they divided up His garments among themselves by casting lots.**

Extra-Biblical Corroboration

➤ **Tactius (56-117 AD)**

“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**...”

The Amazing Fulfillment of Prophecy

Matthew 27:41-44 In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes and elders, were mocking Him and saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him. "He trusts in God; let God rescue Him now, if He delights in Him; for He said, 'I am the Son of God.'" The robbers who had been crucified with Him were also insulting Him with the same words.

The Amazing Fulfillment of Prophecy

Psalms 22:6-8 But I am a worm, and no man; A reproach of men, and despised by the people. All those who see Me ridicule Me; They shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted in the Lord, let Him rescue Him; Let Him deliver Him, since He delights in Him!"

Written 1,000 Years Earlier!

Psalms 22:14 I am poured out like water, And all My bones are out of joint; My heart is like wax; It has melted within Me.

Psalms 22:15 My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and My tongue clings to My jaws; You have brought Me to the dust of death.

Psalms 22:16 For dogs have surrounded Me; The congregation of the wicked has enclosed Me. They pierced My hands and My feet.

Written 1,000 Years Earlier!

Psalm 22:17-18 I can count all My bones.

They look and stare at Me. They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.

Psalm 34:20 He keeps all his bones, Not one of them is broken.

Exodus 12:46 In one house it shall be eaten; you shall not carry any of the flesh outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones.

The Day Darkness Came

Matthew 27:45 Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour.

The Day Darkness Came

➤ **Phlegon:** "Greek author from Caria writing a chronology soon after 137 A.D. reported that in the fourth year of the 202nd Olympiad (i.e., 33 A.D.) there was 'the greatest eclipse of the sun' and that 'it became night in the sixth hour of the day (noon) so that stars even appeared in the heavens. There was a great earthquake in Bithynia, and many things were overturned in Nicaea' " (Paul Maier, *Pontius Pilate*, 101).

Jesus Became A Curse For Us

Matthew 27:46 About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "**My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**"

Who Is God?

Psalms 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; **Lovingkindness** and truth go before You.

Psalms 5:4 NET Certainly you are not a God who approves of evil; evil people cannot dwell with you.

Who Is Man?

Ecclesiastes 7:20 Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...

God's Justice Satisfied On The Cross

Romans 3:24-25a being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith.

1 Peter 3:18 For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just **for** the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit...

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

Matthew 28:1 Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

Matthew 28:5-6 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. "He is not here, for He has been raised, **just as He said**. Come, see the place where He was lying."

The Proof of The Empty Tomb

➤ **Justin Martyr (165 A.D. *Dialogue with Trypho*)**

"A godless and lawless heresy had sprung from one Jesus, a Galilean deceiver, whom we crucified, but his disciples stole him by night from the tomb, where he was laid when unfastened from the cross, and now deceive men by asserting that he has risen from the dead and ascended to heaven."

Why Did The Story Change?

➤Toledoth Yeshua (600 A.D.?)

“Diligent search was made and he (Jesus) was not found in the grave where he had been buried. A gardener had taken him from the grave and had brought him into his garden and buried him in the sand over which the waters flowed into the garden.”

The Proof of The Empty Tomb

Acts 2:23-24, 27 ...this Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. But God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power...Because You will not abandon my soul to Hades, Nor allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.

The Proof of The Empty Tomb

Acts 2:29-31 Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day! And so, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants on his throne, he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay.

God Has Furnished Proof To All

Acts 17:30-31 Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, **God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent**, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."
