

1. Two strong proofs that the Bible is the word of God.
 1. Fulfilled prophecy.
 2. The resurrection of Christ.
2. The resurrection miracle different from all other miracles:
 1. It would had made little difference to the church whether Christ had performed other miracles or not.
 2. Had there been no resurrection there would have been no church.

THEORIES WHICH ATTEMPT TO ACCOUNT FOR RESURRECTION1. THE SWOON THEORY:

1. Christ did not actually die...but swooned
2. Believed to be dead...pushed back the stone appeared to his friends. John 19:34;20:27

3. Destroy belief in the humanity of Jesus. He prophesied of his death and resurrection many times.

2. THEFT OF THE BODY BY FRIENDS: Matt. 28:13

1. We are asked to believe that Stephen, Peter James ETC: would give their lives for what they knew to be false. John 20:2.

3. THEFT OF THE BODY BY ENEMIES:

1. There was no motive for such a theft. MMM
2. If they had had the body...they would have produced it when the disciples began preaching the resurrection.

4. THE VISION THEORY:

1. The disciples were sincere.
2. Had a supernatural vision of Christ in his glorified state.
3. His body actually remained in tomb. OBJECTIONS:
 - (1) This theory posits a miracle to get rid of a miracle.
 - (2) It leaves the empty tomb unexplained.

5. THE OPTICAL ILLUSION THEORY:

1. Dodges plain facts. Jesus' appearances in day. Ghosts at night. Should produced body.

Perception which fails to give the true character of the object perceived

RESURRECTION OF JESUS CONTINUED:

6. HALLUCINATION THEORY: This theory much like the vision theory.

EXCEPT:

This theory was not in the external world...in their own minds

DEFINITION OF HALLUCINATION:

1. Disordered condition of the mind from hysteria. (Psychoneurosis)
Temporary or Permanent
2. Produces the idea that an object is seen that has no actual existence.

1. OBJECTIONS TO HIS THEORY:

(1) Impossible that 500 people (1 Cor. 15:5) all had the same hallucination...at the same time.

(2) This theory collapses on the empty tomb fact.

CONCLUSION: When the early Christians began to preach the resurrection:

1. The Jews would have moved heaven and earth to have produced the dead body of Jesus.
2. The fact that they did not do so is convincing refutation of all theories that Christ did not rise from the dead.