





**A BIBLICAL LOOK AT THE  
RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST**



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**Reasons to Believe the  
Resurrection Really Happened**

**with**

**Wilfred Graves, Ph.D.**

# MAIN TOPICS



**WHAT IS THE RESURRECTION?**



**ANSWERING THE CRITICS**



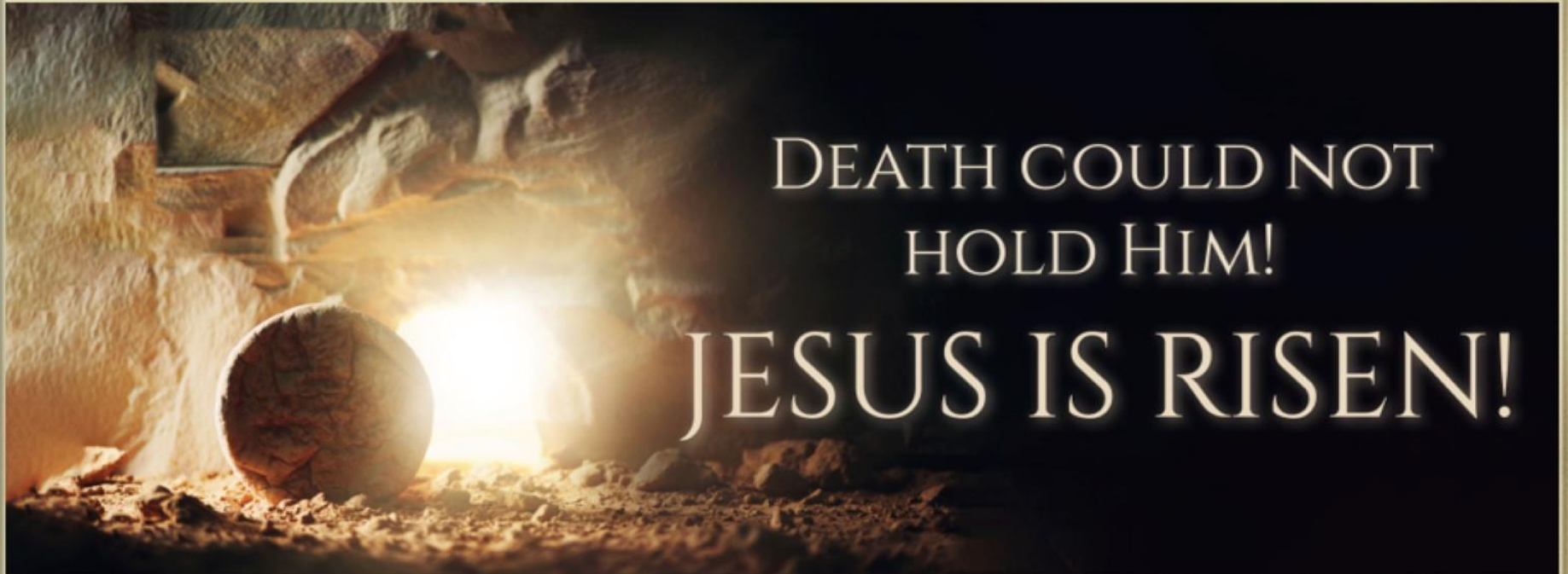
**CONCLUDING STATEMENTS**



# WHAT IS THE RESURRECTION?



# PREACHING THE GOSPEL



DEATH COULD NOT  
HOLD HIM!

JESUS IS RISEN!



# PREACHING THE GOSPEL

Several basic claims of the gospel message:

- Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
- He died for the forgiveness of sin.
- He was resurrected bodily from the dead.
- He is alive forevermore.



If you declare with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Romans 10:9**

# HISTORICITY

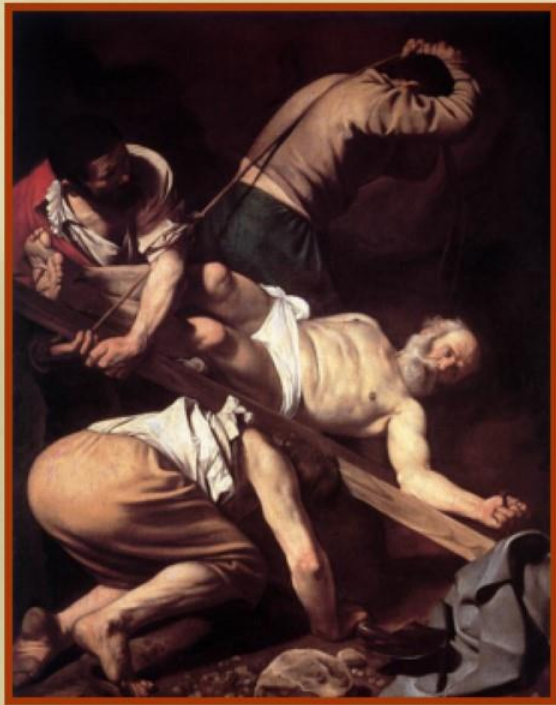
The Resurrection is the most plausible explanation for:

- The Empty Tomb
- The Appearances of Jesus to his Followers
- The Spread of the Christian Faith



# HISTORICITY

**The Resurrection explains the willingness of the apostles to die for their faith.**



*The Crucifixion of Saint Peter,*  
Caravaggio (1600)



*The Martyrdom of St. Matthew*  
Caravaggio (1599–1600)

# HISTORICITY

**The Resurrection explains the willingness of early Christians to die for their faith.**



*Death by Stoning*



*Death in Coliseums*



# HISTORICAL FACT #1

**JESUS DIED ON A CROSS.**



# HISTORICAL FACT #2

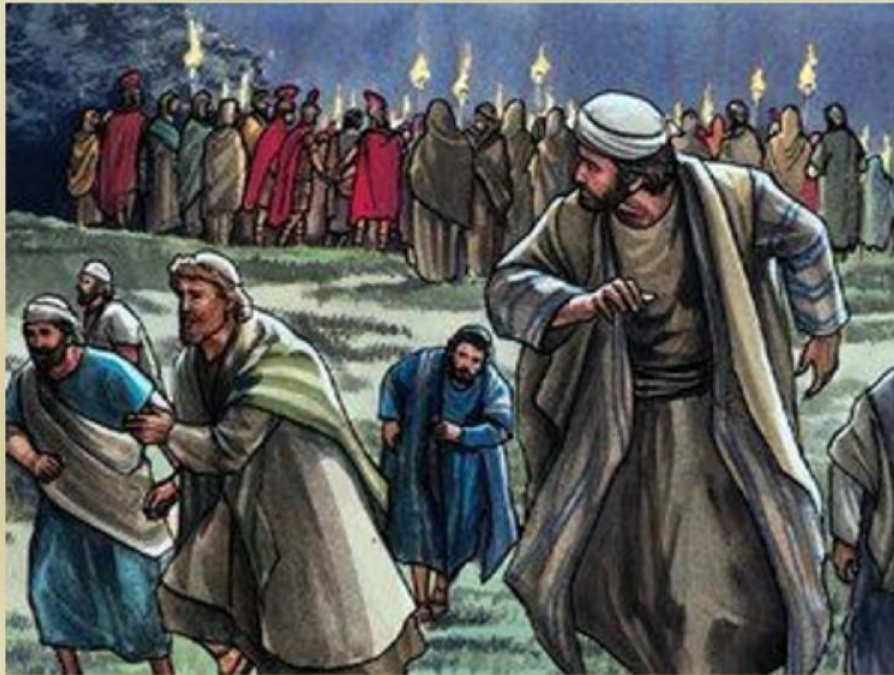
**JESUS WAS BURIED IN A TOMB.**





# HISTORICAL FACT #3

## THE DISCIPLES WERE FEARFUL.



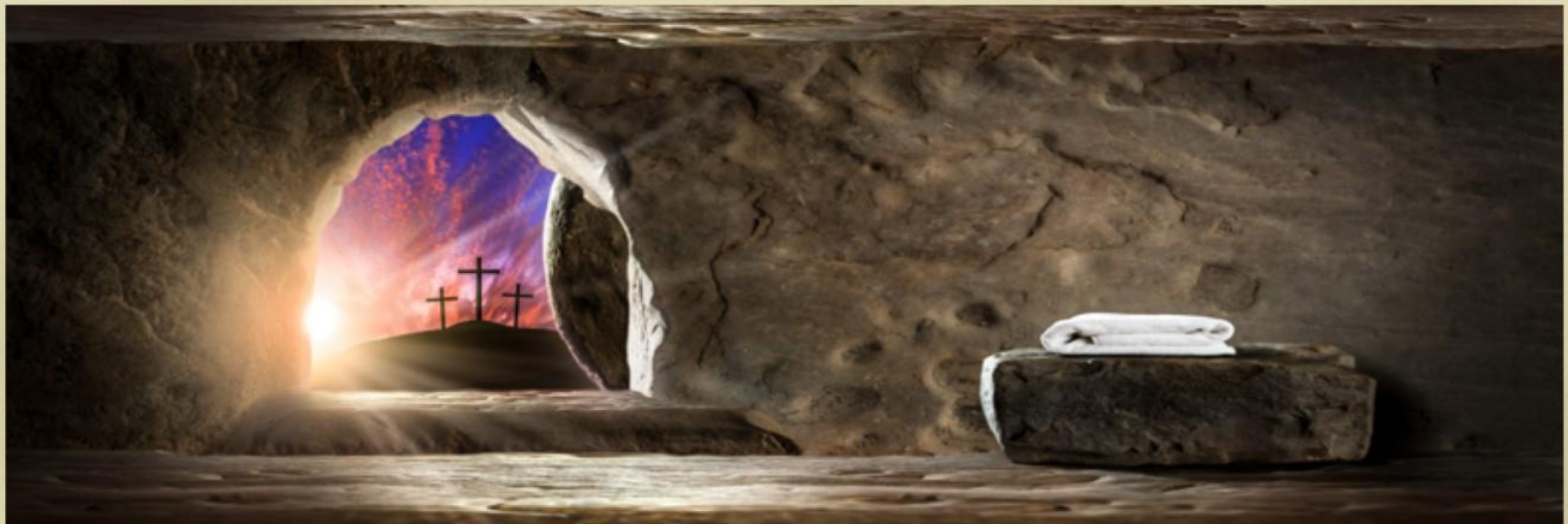
The Disciples Fleeing for their Lives



*Peter's Betrayal,*  
Carl Bloch (1875)

# HISTORICAL FACT #4

**THE TOMB WAS FOUND EMPTY.**





# HISTORICAL FACT #5

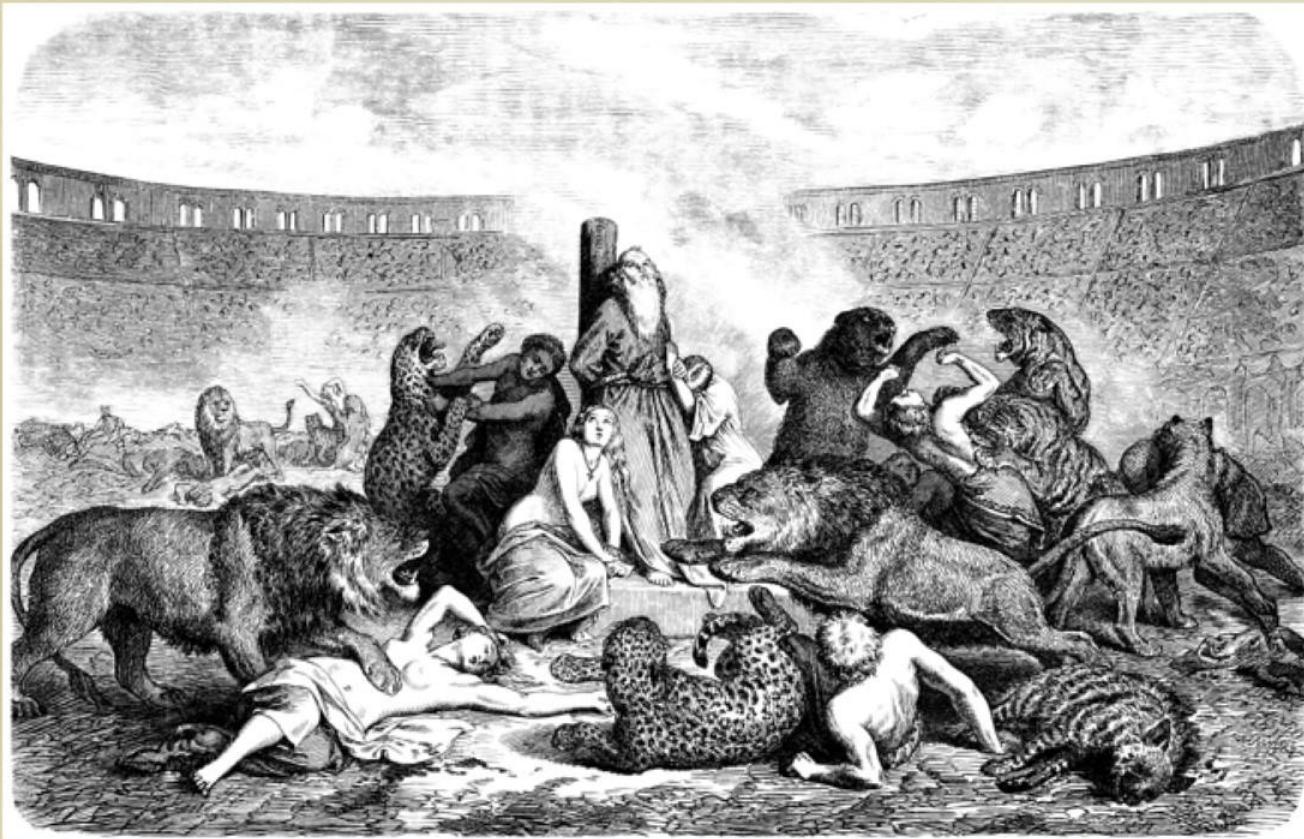
**THERE WERE POST-RESURRECTION APPEARANCES OF JESUS.**





# HISTORICAL FACT #6

**THE DISCIPLES WERE WILLING TO DIE FOR THEIR BELIEF IN THE RESURRECTION.**





# HISTORICAL FACT #7

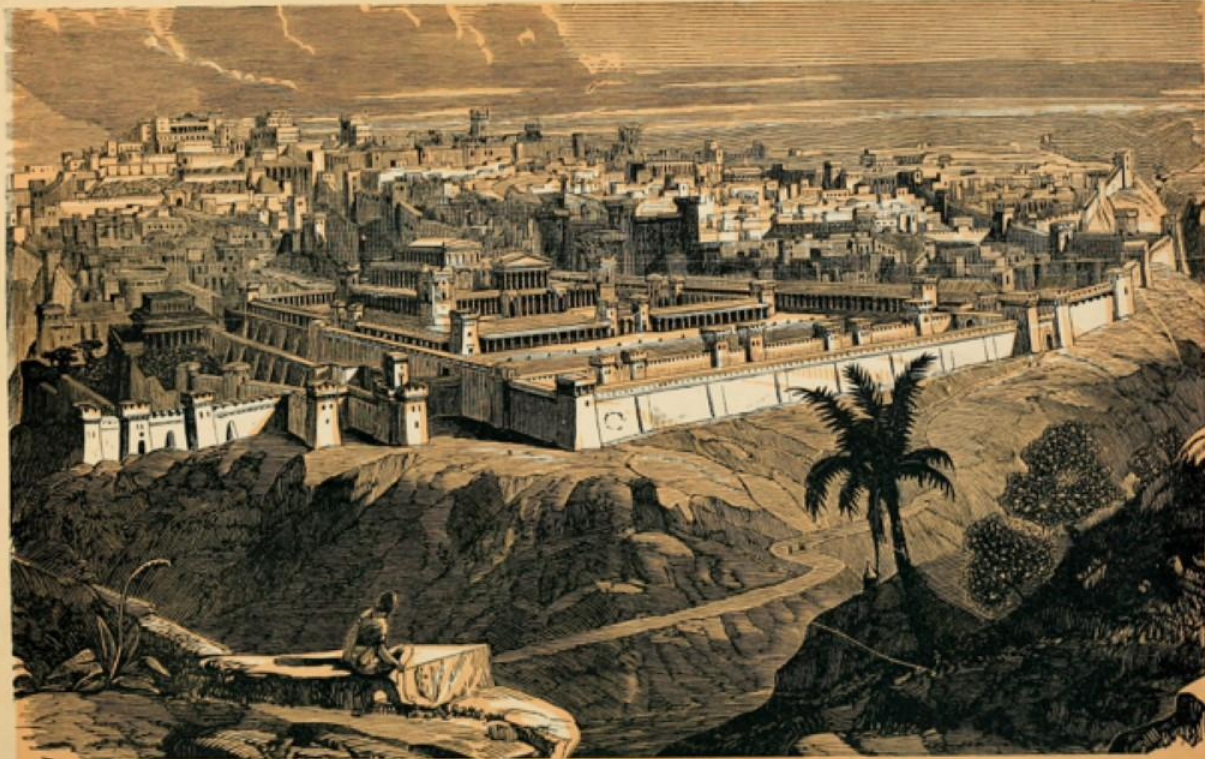
**THE PROCLAMATION OF RESURRECTION  
OCCURRED WITHIN DAYS OF THE CRUCIFIXION.**



**HE IS RISEN**

# HISTORICAL FACT #8

**THE PROCLAMATION OF RESURRECTION TOOK PLACE IN JERUSALEM.**

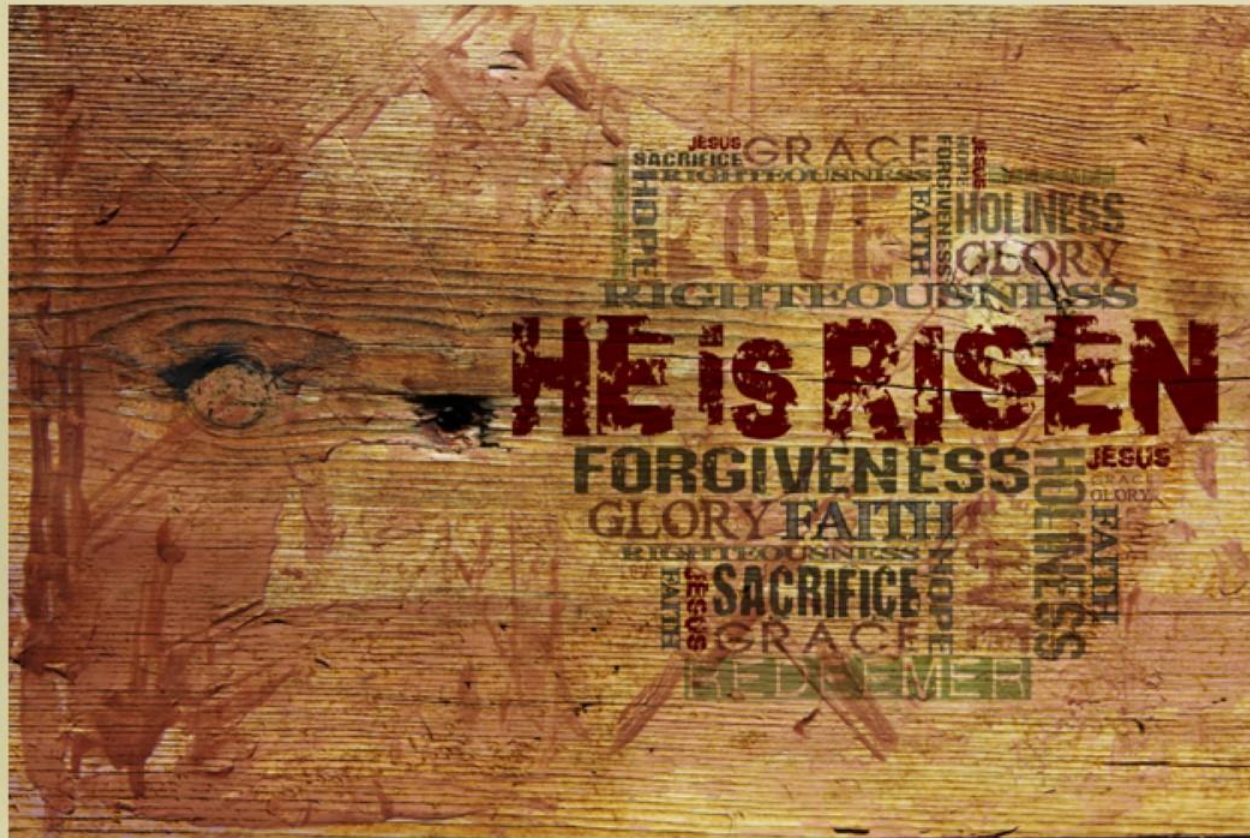


JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF JESUS.



# HISTORICAL FACT #9


**THE RESURRECTION BECAME THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE GOSPEL.**





# HISTORICAL FACT #10

**THE EARLY CHRISTIANS GATHERED FOR  
WORSHIP ON SUNDAY.**

A photograph of a wooden surface, possibly a table or floor, with a warm, brown tone and visible wood grain. The words "LORD'S DAY" are printed in large, bold, dark brown or black block letters. The letters are arranged in two lines: "LORD'S" on the top line and "DAY" on the bottom line. The text is centered horizontally on the wooden background.

**LORD'S  
DAY**



# HISTORICAL FACT #11

**JAMES, THE BROTHER OF JESUS, CONVERTED  
TO THE FAITH.**



# HISTORICAL FACT #12

**SAUL OF TARSUS, AN ENEMY OF CHRISTIANITY  
CONVERTED TO THE FAITH.**





# ANSWERING THE CRITICS



# ANSWERING THE CRITICS

- The existence of Jesus is almost universally accepted by New Testament scholars.
- The New Testament books are reliable documents of history.
- The New Testament documents bear the marks of truthfulness.



# Story of Jesus Constructed from extra-Biblical Historical Writings

“Jesus lived during the time of Tiberius Caesar. He lived a virtuous life. He was a wonder worker. He had a brother named James. He claimed to be the Messiah. He was crucified under Pontius Pilate. An eclipse and an earthquake occurred when he died. He was crucified on the eve of the Jewish Passover. His disciples believed that he rose from the dead. His disciples were willing to die for their belief. Christianity spread rapidly as far as Rome. His disciples denied the Roman gods and worshiped Jesus as God.”

# THE RELIABILITY OF THE NT

- Old Age
- Embarrassing Material
- Archeology and Manuscripts



# THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE NT

- Multiple Witnesses
- Internal Consistency
- Verifiable Data
- Details Unhelpful to a Contrived Story
- Death of Witnesses

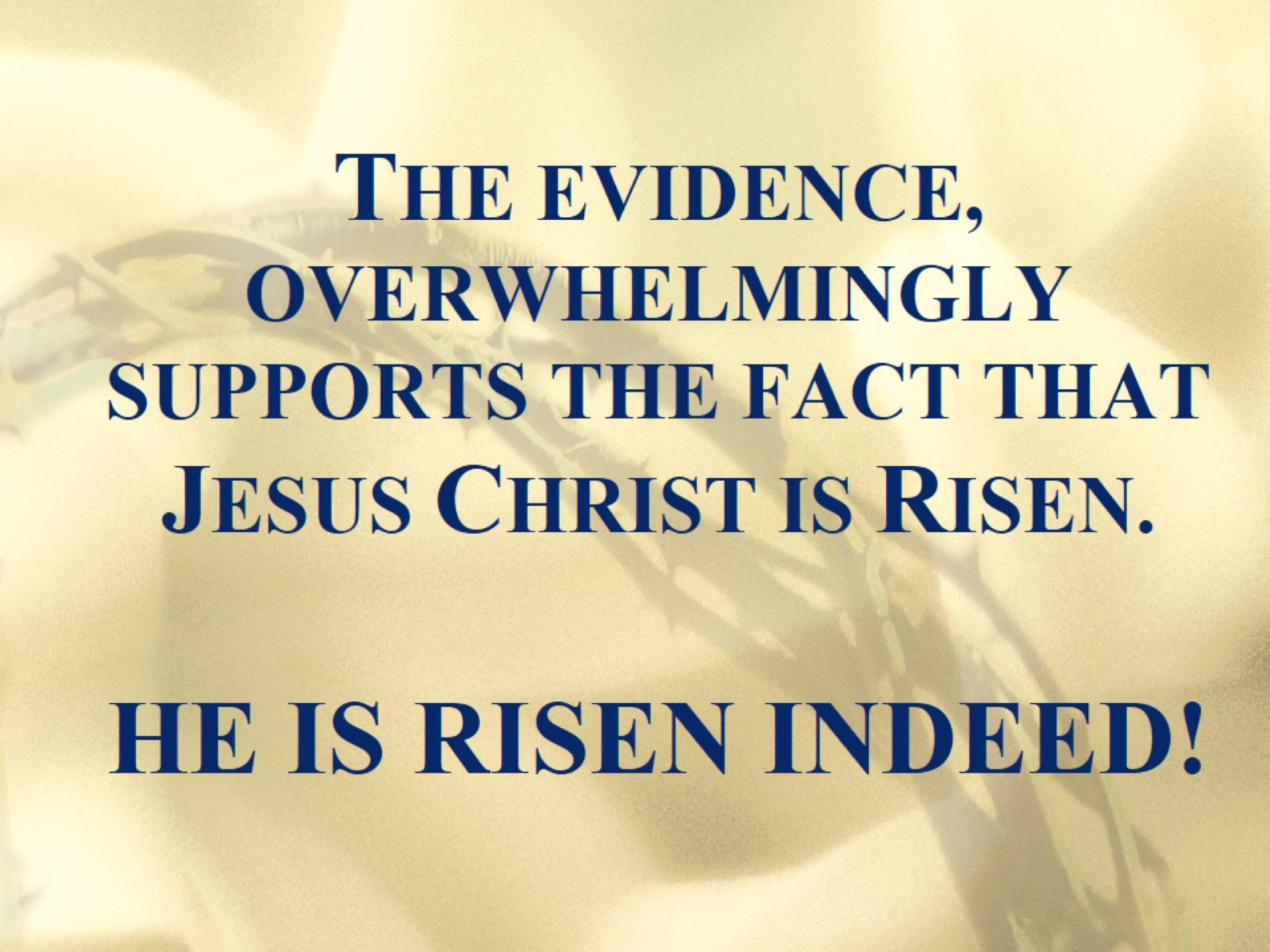
# SKEPTICS' THEORIES





# SKEPTICS' THEORIES

- The disciples stole the body.
- The women went to the wrong tomb.
- Jesus was not really dead.
- The followers were hallucinating.



**THE EVIDENCE,  
OVERWHELMINGLY  
SUPPORTS THE FACT THAT  
JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN.**

**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**



# CLOSING STATEMENTS

