

The Reality of the Resurrection

Acts 17:16-34

The reality of the resurrection isn't just that Jesus Christ is risen, it is that we will answer to Him as our Judge because He is risen.

I. If the _____ is true . . .

A. The _____

B. The _____

C. The _____

II. Then _____ is a certainty . . .

A. A certain _____

B. A certain _____

C. A certain _____

III. Then _____ is necessary.

The most drastic way of dismissing the evidence would be to say that these stories were mere fabrications, that they were pure lies. But so far as I know, not a single critic today would take such an attitude. In fact, it would really be an impossible position. Think of the number of witnesses, over 500. Think of the character of the witnesses, men and women who gave the world the highest ethical teaching it has ever known, and who even on the testimony of their enemies lived it out in their lives. Think of the psychological absurdity of picturing a little band of defeated cowards cowering in an upper room one day and a few days later transformed into a company that no persecution could silence - and then attempting to attribute this dramatic change to nothing more convincing than a miserable fabrication they were trying to foist upon the world.

- Josh McDowell