

TITLE: THE COVER-UP BY THE ENEMIES OF JESUS ABOUT HIS RESURRECTION

TEXT: MATTHEW 28:11-15

INTRODUCTION: (1) HOW IMPORTANT IS THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD, TO CHRISTIANITY?

* WELL, THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION IS, IT IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE, IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT. IT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE VALIDITY OF CHRISTIANITY.

** FOR IF JESUS CHRIST DID NOT RISE FROM THE DEAD, THEN CHRISTIANITY TOTALLY COLLAPSES, IT IS A LIE, IT IS A FALSE RELIGION.

*** NOW WHY WOULD I MAKE SUCH AN EMPHATIC DOGMATIC STATEMENT.

**** WELL, IF JESUS DIDN'T RISE FROM THE DEAD THERE IS NO GOSPEL, NO GOOD NEWS TODAY, FOR THE RESURRECTION IS NOT SIMPLY A COMPONENT OF THE GOSPEL, IT IS NOT MERELY A FEATURE OF THAT GOSPEL, IT IS THE MAIN EVENT.

***** FOR WITHOUT THE RESURRECTION, THE CROSS WOULD MEAN NOTHING, THE WORKS AND WORDS OF JESUS WOULD MEAN NOTHING AND THE BIBLE WOULD BE A LIE, FOR JESUS AND THE BIBLE DECLARE THAT HE WOULD RISE AGAIN.

(2) THEREFORE I CAN SAFELY SAY, NO EVENT IN HISTORY REACHES THE EPIC IMPORTANCE OF THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD.

* THE RESURRECTION TRULY IS THE CROWNING EVENT IN GOD'S HISTORY OF REDEMPTION.

*** FURTHERMORE, THE RESURRECTION IS NOT JUST A FEATURE OF CHRISTIANITY, IT IS AN ESSENTIAL TRUTH, A CARDINAL DOCTRINE.

**** NOW BECAUSE THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST IS SO CRITICAL AND CRUCIAL TO CHRISTIANITY, THE RESURRECTION SEEMS TO BE ALWAYS UNDER SOME KIND OF ASSAULT AND ATTACK FROM THOSE OUTSIDE OF THE FAITH.

(3) FOR UNDERSTAND, SOME NON-BELIEVERS, SOME HATERS OF CHRIST AND CHRISTIANITY ACTUALLY UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE, THE CENTRALITY OF

THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS TO CHRISTIANITY, SATAN CERTAINLY DOES.

* AND COLLECTIVELY THEY REALIZE IF IT IS TRUE, CHRISTIANITY IS TRUE, O.T. PROPHECIES ARE TRUE. N.T. TESTIMONY IS TRUE. THE WORDS OF JESUS ARE TRUE. THE EYEWITNESS TESTIMONIES ARE TRUE. THE GOSPEL IS TRUE. SALVATION IS REAL AND GOD IS GOD AND THEY ARE IN BIG-TIME TROUBLE.

** THEREFORE, SINCE THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST ALMOST 2,000 YEARS AGO, MANY LIES HAVE BEEN PROPAGATED TO TRY TO SACK CHRISTIANITY THAT THE RESURRECTION NEVER HAPPENED AND CHRISTIANITY IS A LIE.

*** AND FROM THE PASSEOVER PLOT PUBLISHED IN 1965, THAT SAID THAT JESUS WAS A FRAUD AND DID NOT RISE FROM THE DEAD, TO THE JESUS SEMINAR, TO OTHER LIES PROPAGATED THROUGHOUT THE CENTURIES ABOUT THE RESURRECTION, THEY HAVE ALL DENIED THE PHYSICAL BODILY RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST FROM THE DEAD.

**** BUT THESE LIES WERE NOT THE FIRST LIES ABOUT THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS CHRIST.

(4) FOR THE FIRST LIE ABOUT THE RESURRECTION IS FOUND IN OUR TEXT TODAY IN MATTHEW 28:11-15, RIGHT

AFTER MATTHEW'S ACCOUNT OF THE RESURRECTION
FOUND IN MATTHEW 28:1-10.

* AND THIS FIRST LIE HAS BEEN AROUND FOR ALMOST
2,000 YEARS NOW.

** AND THAT LIE IS AGAIN, THAT JESUS DID NOT RISE
FROM THE DEAD, THAT HIS DISCIPLES CAME AND STOLE
HIS BODY AWAY WHILE THE GUARDS AT HIS TOMB WERE
SLEEPING.