

The Resurrection of Jesus VI

By Greg Rangel

In our last article we focused on the Swoon Theory. The false theory that states that Jesus did not really die on the cross but that He only swooned away.

We have seen that this theory along with the others that man has fabricated throughout the years against the resurrection of Jesus has been nothing but excuses only not to believe in Jesus.

When it comes to religion man becomes very gullible. People will believe in so many things that will contradict what the Bible teaches without ever investigating the foundations of those beliefs. Even though people are sincere when they believe in these doctrines, they are sincerely wrong.

I will usually ask people why they believe in what they believe in. The response is usually the same. They say things like, "because my parents raised me up in this religion," and, "because I like it."

I dare say that the majority of the people that believe in some type of religion have not really investigated those beliefs. They just blindly follow their religious leader without making a true and honest investigation on what he teaches. This here is a very common mistake that will affect people for the rest of eternity.

Why believe in something that will not give you eternal life? Or why believe in someone that has not risen from the dead? It makes no sense. If we are to believe in something, we must make sure that it is true. Because if those things that we believe in are not true, it will cost us dearly. Let us not blindly believe in doctrines only because we have received them as a tradition from our parents, or because they make us feel good.

There are other arguments that people will usually bring up against the resurrection of Jesus. But they are all based on theories that are not true. The ultimate questions against all these theories are, if Jesus did not rise from the dead, why was His body never produced? If the disciples stole His body, or if the women went to the wrong tomb, or if Jesus only swooned away, why didn't the enemies of Jesus put a stop to the growth of Christianity and to the proclamation of His resurrection by producing His body? Let will tell you why. The reason that they could not stop the growth of Christianity was because Jesus arose from the dead as the Scriptures read.

Also, the reason that the Apostles and disciples dedicated their life and their death to the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus was because they knew that Jesus proved to be the Son of God with power because of the resurrection from the dead. They were eyewitnesses to those events. These things were not a secret.

Luke wrote in Luke 1:1-2 "Forasmuch as many have taken in hand to set forth in order a declaration of those things which are most surely believed among us, Even

as they delivered them unto us, which from the beginning were eyewitnesses, and ministers of the word.” Peter the Apostle wrote in 2Pe 1:16 “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.” Luke also wrote in Act 1:1-3 “The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen: To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:”

Paul the Apostle wrote 1 Corinthians 15:3-8 “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures: And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles. And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.”

Pastor Greg Rangel is the Pastor of Edification Calvary Chapel in Harlingen TX. You may reach him via email at gregrangel@msn.com. You can also get more information of his studies at edificationcalvarychapel.org.