

# Real News of the Resurrection

Without the Resurrection, Jesus' death on the cross would simply be another tragedy of a wise teacher or failed revolutionary. On that third day when the women came running to the apostles with news that Jesus had risen, they realized everything had changed. The world became a different place. Nobody had ever died and risen from the dead of their own power. This was not supposed to happen.

CCC 638-658, 1 Corinthians 15:14, Acts 29-36

Many people today still question the Resurrection, but there are a couple of key points that reassure us that it is not fake news; it is reality:

1. The Roman Seal: A seal was placed upon the stone that blocked the tomb and a guard was set. To break the seal would be punishable by death. The Roman soldiers were the best and most feared military units in the world. In order to steal Jesus' body, someone would have had to sneak by or subdue the elite, war-hardened soldiers and break the seal.
2. The Empty Tomb: The reality is that Jesus' bones have not turned up. It was common practice for Jews to make a memorial out of loved ones' graves, and this certainly would have happened with Jesus' body. However, no tomb has been found with human remains that states, "Here lies Jesus of Nazareth." If the apostles failed to steal the body, why would the Jewish authorities or Roman rulers not have simply made it known where His body was or opened the tomb and shown everyone the body? Not to mention the empty tomb was discovered by women. In the ancient world, women were not considered reliable witnesses. If the apostles were making the story up, they would not have chosen women to be their key witnesses.
3. To the Death: Every apostle (except John) was brutally martyred. Every martyr in the early Church went to their gruesome death proclaiming Jesus resurrected. If they had been lying, it is doubtful they would have so willingly been beheaded, burned, stoned, crucified, or eaten by lions.