

Did Jesus really rise?

Everything hangs on one Sunday morning.

In short. The earliest record, written within living memory, says Jesus died, was buried, rose, and was seen by many.¹ The disciples weren't expecting it and doubted it at first; meeting the risen Jesus changed them.^{2,3}

Key points

- Paul records the appearances of the risen Christ around AD 56.¹
- The empty tomb was the first sign, not by itself a proof.⁴
- The apostles' faith came from real encounters, not wishful thinking.²

Try this, this week

1. **Read Luke 24:1–12.** Watch who believes and who doesn't.
2. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–8.** Count the witnesses.
3. **Ask yourself** what would explain the change in the disciples.

“For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,”

1 Corinthians 15:3–4, World English Bible

Common questions

Remember: The first skeptics were the apostles.

Sources

1. CCC 639
2. CCC 643

3. CCC 644
4. CCC 640

Quotation above: 1 Corinthians 15:3–4, World English Bible. Catechism: official text on vatican.va.

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