

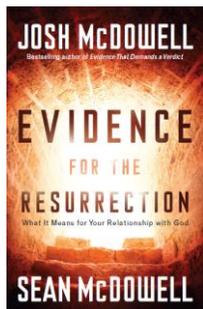
RECLAIMING EASTER

5 TEACHING OUTLINES / TRANSCRIPTS

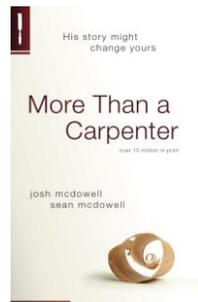
Taken from 8 hours of teaching on the Resurrection

BY

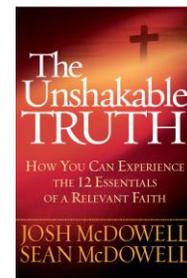
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1. Resurrection Outline / Transcript #1
2. Resurrection Outline / Transcript #2
3. Resurrection Outline / Transcript #3
4. Resurrection Outline / Transcript #4
5. Resurrection Outline / Transcript #5



Legend:

MTAC: More Than A Carpenter

E4R: Evidence for the Resurrection

[Ppt128]: PowerPoint Slide #128

TS¶43: Paragraph #43 in Sermon Transcripts

RESURRECTION OUTLINE

(Part 1)

If Jesus Christ wasn't raised from the dead, the Christian faith is worthless!

E4R 7-13

TS¶2

E4R 107-118

I. THE HISTORICAL RECORD

E4R 121-124

A. Is history/miracles...can we know historical truth?

E4R 125-138

B. MATTHEW 27:54-66

C. THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

TS¶3 E4R 119

MTAC 125

1. 1 Corinthians 15:13-17 (NAS) [ppt173-175]

The apostle Paul emphasized this point when he wrote, "But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain; your faith also is vain. Moreover we are even found to be false witnesses of God, because we testified against God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise, if in fact the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless."

TS¶4

Dr. David Fredrick Strauss: [ppt176-177]

"...touchstone, not of the life of Jesus only, but of Christianity itself." It "touches Christianity to the quick" and is "decisive for the whole view of Christianity."

TS¶5

"Willing to risk all on its eventuality"

D. THE PREDICTION

The claims of Christ that He would be raised from the dead:

TS¶7

1. Matthew 12:38-40; 16:21; 17:9; 17:22, 23; 20:18, 19[ppt179-180]; 26:32; 27:63.

2. Mark 8:31[ppt181-182]-9:1; 9:10; 9:31[ppt183], 14:28, 58; 10:32

3. Luke 9:22-27

4. John 2:19-22 [ppt184-186] ; 12:34; chapters 14-16

E4Rp211

- a. “Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised upon the third day.” Matthew 16:21 (NAS) [ppt178A]
- b. Mark points out in his Gospel that “...He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, and the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.” Mark 8:31 (NAS) [ppt181-182]
- c. John confirms this when he writes: “Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews then said, ‘It took forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?’ But He was speaking of the temple of His body.” John 2:19-22 (NAS) [ppt184-186]

TS¶8

E4Rp211

E. THE SETTING [ppt188-190]

Some of the facts relevant to the resurrection are these: Jesus of Nazareth, a Jewish prophet, claimed to be the Christ prophesied in the Jewish Scriptures. He was arrested, judged a political criminal, and crucified. Three days after His death and burial, some women went to His tomb and found the body gone. His disciples claimed that God had raised Him from the dead and that He had appeared to them various times before ascending into heaven.

MTACp125-126

From this foundation, Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire and has continued to exert great influence down through the centuries.

Did the resurrection actually happen? Was the tomb of Jesus really empty? The controversy over these questions rages even today.

II. CHRISTIANITY IS DIFFERENT

A. HISTORIAL BASIS

The Resurrection of Christ is a Time-Space Dimension Event in History

TS¶9
MTAC 129

- 1. Jesus was physically alive, then dead. [ppt192]

2. Jesus was placed in a definite geological location – a tomb. [ppt192]
3. Guards were placed at the tomb. [ppt193] TS¶10
4. 500 people see Him alive after His death. [ppt193] MTAC 137

B. TESTIMONY OF LAW AND HISTORY

- ◆ John Simpleton Copley TS¶16
- ◆ Simon Greenleaf [ppt207-212] TS¶18 – MTACp138-139
- ◆ Frank Morrison [ppt203-206] TS¶17
- ◆ Lord Caldecote – Lord Chief Justice of England: “...as often as I have tried to examine the evidence to believe it as fact beyond dispute.”
- ◆ Brooke Westcott [ppt199-200] TS¶14
- ◆ Paul Maier TS¶15 – E4Rp216
- ◆ Thomas Arnold – 14 years headmaster of Rugby – 3 Vol. *History of Rome* – “I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence.” [ppt196-198] TS¶13
MTACp137-138

C. PRINCIPLES OF INVESTIGATION

E4R 121-138
MTACp137

1. Historical
2. Limitations of Science
 - ◆ Must be settled historically
 - ◆ Memphis
 - a. *The Basis Dictionary of Science* describes scientific knowledge as that “knowledge based on the observation and testing of facts.” [ppt254] MTAC 43
 - b. *The Harper Encyclopedia of Science* describes scientific method as “...techniques of controlled observation employed in the search for knowledge.” [ppt255]
3. Historical Investigation
 - a. Historian Ronald Sider writes about the need for objectivity in historical research: “What does the critical historian do when his evidence points very strongly to the reality of an even which contradicts his expectations and goes against the naturalistic view

of reality. I submit that he must follow his critically analyzed sources. It is unscientific to begin with the philosophical presupposition that miracles cannot occur. Unless we avoid such one-sided presuppositions, historical interpretation becomes mere propaganda.”

We have a right to demand good evidence for an alleged event which we have not experienced, but we dare not judge reality by our limited experience. And I would suggest that we have good evidence for the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth.” [ppt300-305]

b. The Erlangen historian Ethelbert Stauffer gives further suggestions on how to approach history: “What do we (as historians) do when we experience surprises which run counter to all our expectations, perhaps all our convictions and even our period’s whole understanding of truth? We say as one great historian used to say in such instances: ‘It is surely possible.’ And why not? For the critical historian nothing is impossible.” [ppt298-299]

c. Historian Philip Schaff adds to the above: “The purpose of the historian is not to construct a history from preconceived notions and to adjust it to his own liking, but to reproduce it from the best evidences and to let it speak for itself.” [ppt306-307] E4Rp124

4. Legal Evidence [ppt276-279] E4Rp124

a. Oral Testimony [ppt283] MTACp43

b. Written Testimony [ppt281] MTACp43

c. Physical Testimony [ppt282] MTACp43

5. Literary Evidence [ppt583] E4R 139-145

a. Dating of New Testament [ppt414-419]

i. William Albright, once the world’s foremost biblical archaeologist, said: “We can already say emphatically that there is no longer any solid basis for dating any book of the New Testament after AD 80, two full generations before the date between 130 and 150 given by the more radical New Testament critics of today.” [ppt422-425] MTACp65 E4R140-141

b. Manuscript Authority [ppt443-451]

- i. Clark Pinnock, professor of interpretation, McMasters University (Toronto), “There exists no document from the ancient world witnessed by so excellent a set of textual and historical testimonies, and offering so superb an array of historical data on which the intelligent decision may be made. An honest (person) cannot dismiss a source of this kind. Skepticism regarding the historical credentials of Christianity is based upon an irrational bias.” [ppt776-779] MTACp88

c. Short Time Period

- i. Dr. Paul L. Maier, professor of ancient history at Western Michigan University, writes, “Arguments that Christianity hatched its Eater myth over a lengthy period of time or that the sources were written many years after the even are simply not factual. [ppt782-783] MTACp68
- ii. Concerning the manuscripts’ trustworthiness Millar Burrows of Yale says: “Another result of comparing New Testament Greek with the language of the papyri is an increase of confidence in the accurate transmission of the text of the New Testament itself.” [ppt316-317] MTACp64

He continues that “the texts have been transmitted with remarkable fidelity, so that there need be no doubt whatever regarding the teaching conveyed by them.” Howard Vos, researcher, declares that: “From the standpoint of literary evidence the only logical conclusion is that the case for the reliability of the New Testament is infinitely stinger than that for any other record of antiquity.” [ppt405-406]

d. Eyewitness Accounts

E4R 145-149

- i. Dr. Louis Gottschalk, historian, in writing about the examination of the accuracy of a source says, “Ability to tell the truth rests in part upon the witness’s nearness to the event. Nearness is here used in both a geographical and a chronological sense.” [ppt509] E4Rp145
MTACp78
MTACp91
E4Rp145
MTACp128-129; E4Rp145
MTACp92; E4Rp145-146
MTACp92; E4Rp118
- ii. 2 Peter 1:16 [ppt515-516]
- iii. Acts 1:3 [ppt512]
- iv. Luke 1 [ppt517-518]
- v. John 20:30 [ppt522-532]

e. Psychological Factors

◆ Not a fleeting glimpse

i. Dr. Elizabeth S. Loftus, professor of psychology at the University of Washington, writes that “people who witness fearful events remember the details of them less accurately than they recall ordinary happenings. Stress or fear disrupts perception and, therefore, memory. Stress can also affect a person’s ability to recall something observed or learned during a period of relative tranquility.”

ii. Spent time

iii. 40 days

f. The Hearsay Rule

McCormick’s *Handbook of the Law of Evidence*:

Information is the best when manifested in the rule requiring that a witness who testifies to a fact which can be perceived by the senses must have had an opportunity to observe, and must have actually observed the fact.

[ppt1280-1281]

The emphasis of the *hearsay rule* is that “hearsay” is not admissible as evidence in a court of law. *The Federal Rules of Evidence* declares that a witness must testify concerning what he has firsthand knowledge of, not what had come to him indirectly from other sources. **[ppt1282]**

g. Firsthand Knowledge:

i. Secondhand:

◆ Matthew – records Mary Magdalene and other Mary = angel told them (Hearsay)

◆ In court of law = hearsay

ii. Firsthand Knowledge:

◆ But then Jesus appeared to them

◆ Thomas **[ppt528-532,1190]**

MTACp13,92
E4Rp118,135,197

h. Written accounts

E4R 147

The “ancient document” principle under the *Federal Rules of Evidence* permits the authentication of a document to be made by

showing that the document (1) is in such condition as to create no suspicion concerning its authenticity; (2) was in a place where, if authentic, it would likely be, and (3) has been in existence 20 years or more at the time it is offered. [ppt605A]

Dr. John Warwick Montgomery, a lawyer, and former dean and professor of the Simon Greenleaf School of Law, comments about the application of the “ancient document” rule to the New Testament documents: “Applied to the gospel records, and reinforced by responsible lower (textual) criticism, this rule would establish competency in any court of law.” [ppt787-788]

MTACp147
E4R 140

i. Presence of Knowledgeable Eyewitnesses [ppt799-838]

“Open to refutation” – falsification

j. Presence of Hostile Eyewitnesses [ppt29, 786-798, 1086-1087, 1192-1207]

MTACp22,81-83,102-103
E4Rp189,197

Justice Ruffin in *State vs. Morris* amplifies the “cross-examination” principle: “All trials proceeded upon the idea that some confidence is due to human testimony, and that this confidence is due to human testimony, and that this confidence grows and becomes more steadfast in proportion as the witness has been subjected to a close and searching cross-examination.”[ppt77-78]

Legend:

E4R – *Evidence for the Resurrection*, by Josh McDowell

MTAC – *More Than a Carpenter*, by Josh McDowell

¶ - refers to the particular paragraphs in *The Resurrection Transcript*

[ppt123...] – refers to where that particular point can be found within the PowerPoint slides