



Luke 24:36-53

The Certain Gospel:

Four Responses to the Resurrection

An Interview with Christopher Hitchens

Marilyn Sewell: The religion you cite in your book is generally the fundamentalist faith of various kinds. I'm a liberal Christian, and I don't take the stories from the scripture literally. I don't believe in the doctrine of atonement (that Jesus died for our sins, for example). Do you make any distinction between fundamentalist faith and liberal religion?

An Interview with Christopher Hitchens

Christopher Hitchens: I would say that if you don't believe that Jesus of Nazareth was the Christ and Messiah, and that he rose again from the dead and by his sacrifice our sins are forgiven, you're really not in any meaningful sense a Christian.



Four responses to the resurrection of Jesus:

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- 2) Belief not doubt (v40-43)

“People will die for their religious beliefs if they sincerely believe they’re true, but people won’t die for their religious beliefs if they know their beliefs are false.”

The Case For Christ by Lee Strobel

External Witnesses

1 Clement 5:4 “Peter, through unrighteous envy, endured not one or two, but numerous labors; and when he had at length suffered martyrdom, departed to the place of glory due to him.” (Clement of Rome AD 96~)

External Witnesses

Smyrnaens 3:2 And when [Jesus] came unto them who were with Peter he said unto them, Take, handle me, and see that I am not a spirit without a body; and straightway they touched him and believed, being convinced by his flesh and his spirit. On this account also they despised death, and were found superior to death. (Ignatius of Antioch AD 107~)

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- 2) Belief not doubt (v40-43)
- 3) Sharing not silence (v44-49)

Luke's Great Commission

Luke 24:46-48 He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, 47 and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” (NIV[®])

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5. We need the Holy Spirit to empower us

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- 1) Peace not fear (v36-39)
- 2) Belief not doubt (v40-43)
- 3) Sharing not silence (v44-49)
- 4) Praise, praise, and more praise (v50-53)