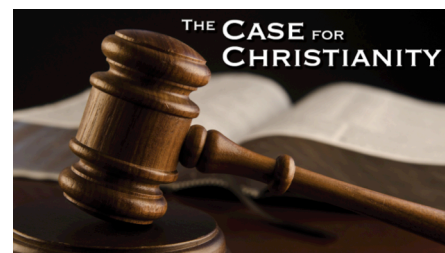


Series: The Case for Christianity
Title: The Case for Christ
Date: September 29, 2013



1. WHAT DOES THE _____ SUGGEST?

Col. 1:15-20

- The miracles of Jesus
- Evidence outside of His biographies
- Archaeological evidence of Jesus

2. WHAT DID _____ BELIEVE ABOUT _____?

John 10:25-30

- That He was both God and the Son of God
- That He was the Messiah—Fulfillment of prophecies
- That He was the one & only Savior—Reconciler

3. DID JESUS REALLY _____ FROM THE _____?

I Cor. 15:12-19

- The medical evidence
- The evidence of the missing body & appearances after His death
- The circumstantial evidence

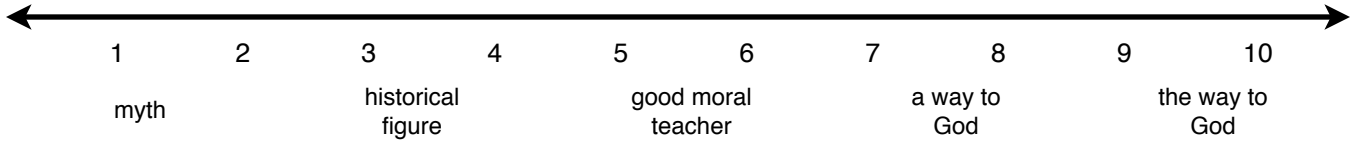
4. WHAT'S _____ VERDICT?

Matt. 16:13-17

- Lunatic
- Liar
- Lord, Savior, King, Messiah

HEARING AND DOING

1. What do you believe about Jesus Christ? Put an X on the line below.



2. Below are some of the most common objections to the Case for Christ. Read each one and then make an attempt to give a one sentence answer to the objection. (It's okay if you have no idea... just make a guess.) Circle the one you think is the most significant objection.

Objection	Answer
1. Jesus was not an historical person.	
2. The four accounts of Jesus' life are not identical but contain differing details. They can't get their facts straight!	
3. Jesus' miracles are explained by mass hallucinations...	
4. Jesus' miracles were simply made up by the writers of scripture.	
5. Jesus did not die on the cross but "swooned", appeared to have died, but then revived in the tomb.	
6. Jesus did die on the cross, but did not rise from the dead.	
7. The tomb was not empty.	
8. The disciples stole the body from the tomb. It was not a resurrection.	
9. Jesus was a good moral teacher, but not the Son of God.	

From: Pliny the Younger (Roman Governor)
 To: Trajan (Emperor of Rome)
 Re: What to do with Christians? (112 A.D.)

It is my practice, my lord, to refer to you all matters concerning which I am in doubt. For who can better give guidance to my hesitation or inform my ignorance? I have never participated in trials of Christians. I therefore do not know what offenses it is the practice to punish or investigate, and to what extent....

...in the case of those who were denounced to me as Christians, I have observed the following procedure: I interrogated these as to whether they were Christians; those who confessed I interrogated a second and a third time, threatening them with punishment; those who persisted I ordered executed. For I had no doubt that, whatever the nature of their creed, stubbornness and inflexible obstinacy surely deserve to be punished. There were others possessed of the same folly; but because they were Roman citizens, I signed an order for them to be transferred to Rome....they asserted, however, that the sum and substance of their fault or error had been that they were accustomed to meet on a fixed day before dawn and sing responsively a hymn to Christ as to a god, and to bind themselves by oath, not to some crime, but not to commit fraud, theft, or adultery, not falsify their trust, nor to refuse to return a trust when called upon to do so. When this was over, it was their custom to depart and to assemble again to partake of food--but ordinary and innocent food. Even this, they affirmed, they had ceased to do after my edict by which, in accordance with your instructions, I had forbidden political associations. Accordingly, I judged it all the more necessary to find out what the truth was by torturing two female slaves who were called deaconesses. But I discovered nothing else but depraved, excessive superstition.

I therefore postponed the investigation and hastened to consult you. For the matter seemed to me to warrant consulting you, especially because of the number involved. For many persons of every age, every rank, and also of both sexes are and will be endangered. For the contagion of this superstition has spread not only to the cities but also to the villages and farms...

3. Read the historical document to the right. This is from a secular political official encountering Christianity for the first time and writing to his boss for help. Circle any parts that seem to give historical evidence for Christianity.