

THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

I. The Importance of the Resurrection of Christ

- A. Theologically, 1 Cor. 15:14, 17--faith is vain (v 14 kenos, void of content, v 17 mataios, void of useful aim or effect).
 - 1. No real content to faith; v 14. No facts; only mirage. (Importance of fact, Montgomery, God is Dead, pp. 52-53.)
 - 2. No real aim or end of faith, v 17. Res proves that work of red was accepted, Rom 4:25. Assures us X did not die for own sins.
- B. Biblically, 1 Cor. 15:15. If cannot bel testimony of apostles on this crucial point, how can bel concn other events, teachings, acts in X's life?
- C. Practically, 1 Cor. 15:18-19. No hope for selves or loved ones for future. Present life of suffering only for a fiction.

II. The Evidences for the Resurrection of Christ

- A. Evidence of X Himself
John 2:19-22; Matt. 12:40; 16:21; 20:18-19
- B. Evidence of the Gospel writers
Matt 28:1 NSRB note.
- C. Evidence of rest of NT
Acts 2:33 (less than 2 months previously, plenty of witnesses).
+ 22 other ref. Acts 3:15 Peter; 13:30 Paul
- D. The Empty Tomb
Body stolen Matt 28:13
Women went to the wrong tomb
X only swooned. Roman soldiers aren't that inept.
- E. Post-res appearances
NSRB Jn 20:16, esp 1 Cor 15:6 (A.D.56)
Attempt to explain these by visions, spiritism, television, hallucinations
- F. Corroborating evidences
Ch, change in apos, Lord's Day

III. The Modern Attacks on the Resurrection of X

- A. The Liberal Strike-out Ignoring evidence, concludes it can't be
- B. The Barthian Cop-out Doesn't make any diff
Brunner "the empty tomb plays no part whatsoever in the NT as the foundation for faith in the Res" Meidator 576. Barth "it is really a matter of indiff" The Res of the Dead 135.
- C. The Existential Drop-out That's nice!
Bultmann "The res itself is not an event of past history. . . . The real Easter faith is faith in the word of preaching. If the event of Easter Day is in any sense an historical event additional to the event of the cross, it is nothing else than the rise of faith in the risen Lord, since it was this faith which led to the apostolic preaching" NT and Mythology in Kerygma and Myth, pp. 39-42.
Then read Montgomery and Expos Times.

Liberals on the Resurrection of Christ

Tillich: restitution theory. "the ecstatic confirmation of the indestructible unity of the New Being with its bearer, Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus was raised above ~~the~~ transitoriness and took on the character of an eternal spiritual presence. Jesus restored to the dignity of the Christ in the minds of the disciples by the res.

Thielicke: "Naturally, one cannot talk about the Resurrection the way one reports a traffic accident or an historical event. A newspaper account of the Resurrection would be absurd. Everything that happens around the tomb is bathed in a mysterious, indirect light. We hear no details of what went on. . . Thus we end up with anything but four objective chronicles. . ." I Believe, pp. 162-3.

Wilder does not mention res of X