

Breakthrough

Breaking Free

Mark 15. 42-47, 16.1-8

Did Jesus really rise from the dead?

Jesus Was Dead and Buried

Christianity rises and falls on the resurrection of Jesus

42 When evening had already come, because it was the preparation day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, 43 Joseph of Arimathea came, a prominent member of the Council, who himself was waiting for the kingdom of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus.

44 Pilate wondered if He was dead by this time, and summoning the centurion, he questioned him as to whether He was already dead. 45 And ascertaining this from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

Jesus never actually died

The Romans were experts in death. If they said he was dead, he was dead.

46 Joseph bought a linen cloth, took Him down, wrapped Him in the linen cloth and laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb.

The disciples stole the body of Jesus

The body of Jesus could not be stolen

47 Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus were looking on to see where He was laid.

They went to the wrong tomb

People knew where Jesus was buried. This makes it difficult to claim

people went to the wrong tomb.

And Then He Wasn't

The early church made up the resurrection accounts

16. When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, they *came to the tomb when the sun had risen. 3 They were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?" 4 Looking up, they *saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large.

The testimony of women was invalid in any court.

No one anticipated the resurrection. No one believed Jesus would rise again.

5 Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed.

6 And he *said to them, "Do not be amazed; you are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who has been crucified. He has risen; He is not here; behold, here is the place where they laid Him.

7 But go, tell His disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.'"

Mark assumes what the other Gospel writers, Peter and Paul proclaimed. People saw Jesus alive

8 They went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had gripped them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

At his resurrection, not only did Jesus break free from his death, he broke us free from our sin and our death.

The end of Mark's story of Jesus can be the beginning of your story with Jesus.