

Why Christmas? Is Jesus Really God?

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Video series: Session Two

My favorite Christmas card pictures Caesar, Hitler and other tyrants beneath the words, "History is filled with men who would be gods." Inside, next to a drawing of Jesus in his manger, it adds, "But only one God who would be man."

Is there evidence that the Christ of Christmas is really God?

The Bible says that he is, of course. But all religions have their holy books. Just because people believe something doesn't make it true.

Here's my question: if Jesus didn't rise from the dead, how do we explain his empty tomb and the changed lives of his disciples? Here are your options:

One: The authorities claimed that the disciples stole the body while the guards slept. But how would sleeping guards know who took the body? How could the disciples convince so many people that the corpse was alive? And why would they die for a lie?

Two: the women stole the body. But how would they overpower the guards? How would they make the corpse look alive? And why would they die for a lie?

Three: the authorities stole the body. But why would they? And when Christians began preaching the resurrection, why didn't they produce the corpse?

Four: the Christians went to the wrong tomb. But eyewitnesses saw where Jesus was buried. Wouldn't the man who owned the tomb have corrected the error? And why didn't the authorities go to the right tomb and produce the corpse?

And five: Jesus faked his death. But his burial clothes would have suffocated him. And how did he overpower the guards in his emaciated condition, appear through locked doors, and ascend to heaven?

There is only one reasonable explanation for the empty tomb, the changed lives of the disciples, and the immediate explosion of Christianity around the world: Jesus Christ rose from the dead. If you'll ask him to forgive your mistakes and become your Lord, you'll meet him for yourself.

As the Christmas card says, Jesus is the God who would be man. I hope you'll make him your God today.