Proof of the Resurrection of Christ

We Celebrate Christ’s Resurrection Near Passover
We cannot prove Christ’s resurrection by:

- Videos
- Photos
- News reports
- Movies
- Satellite images
Belief in the resurrection is supported by objective facts:

- **Historical facts**
- **Prophecies**
Jesus Christ, apostles and early Christians appealed to:

- **Historical facts**
- **Prophecies**

Luke 1:1 - 4
John 20:30 – 31
Act 1:1 - 2
Acts 26:24 - 27
Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus; so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

Luke 1:1-4
The first account I composed, Theophilus, about all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up to heaven, after He had by the Holy Spirit given orders to the apostles whom He had chosen.

Acts 1:1-2
Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 20:30-31
While Paul was saying this in his defense, Festus said in a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind! Your great learning is driving you mad.” But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I utter words of sober truth. For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I am persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not been done in a corner.”

Acts 26:24-27
3 Days Later

Luke 24:1 - 12
Emmaus Road

Luke 24:13
Emmaus Road

Luke 24:14 - 20
We All Agree -
Jesus Died!
Time of Messiah’s Death

1 Nisan 444 B.C.

Artaxerxes's Decree
Nehemiah 2:5-8
"Restore and Rebuild the city"

476 Years + 25 days

14 Nisan, 3793
(Jewish Calendar)

April 1 A.D. 33
Gregorian calendar*

*Our calendar is the Gregorian calendar

"Jesus died on this date"
Emmaus Road

Luke 24:21
Feeding of 5,000

John 6:1-15
Triumphant Entry

John 12:12-19
Emmaus Road

Five Historical Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

1. **Women were quoted as authoritative eyewitnesses.**

   **Note:**
   Women were not considered to be reliable witnesses at the time of Christ. So, the apostles would not have used the women in an attempt to create a falsehood. They are included because the resurrection is true.
Five Historical Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

2. Would every apostle die for a lie?

Note:
Every apostle, except one, was tortured until he died. They were beheaded, crucified (4 apostles), flayed with knives, hanged, shot with arrows, executed with a spear and sawed up. Surely, one would have refused to die for a lie?
Filipino devotees nailed to cross in Crucifixion re-enactment

By Associated Press

April 3, 2015 | 10:03am
Facts About Filipinos’ Crucifixions

- None of them plan to die!
- Sterilized nails are pounded into their hands and feet.
- Support bands and feet supports are used to minimize the pain.
- They are rushed to the hospital when the devotee decides to get off the cross.
In Jesus’ Day . . .

- **Crucifixion was humiliation.**
- **The executed were stripped naked.**
- **Some victims had sticks jammed through the groin.**
- **Cicero described crucifixion as "a most cruel and disgusting punishment."**
Five Historical Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

3. If Jesus’ body was still in the tomb, the Jewish leaders could have shown Jesus’ dead body to the world.

Note:
If the Roman or Jewish leaders had revealed Jesus’ body to the world, they would have proved that Jesus was still dead and the grave was not empty, but . . .
Five Historical Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

4. Jewish leaders admitted the body was not in the tomb when they published their own report as to why the body was missing.

Note:
What else would one expect from the enemies of Christ. One should doubt an enemies report.
Five Historical Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

5. There were many eyewitnesses.

Note:
The apostle Paul told the Corinthians that the apostles saw Jesus alive after His death and there were 500 brethren who were still alive. Anyone could have spoken with them to verify his statements.

– 1 Cor. 15:1-8
Emmaus Road

Prophetic Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

- Earliest prophecy: Gen. 3:15
- Coming King: Gen. 49:10
- Coming King: Num. 24:17
- Coming Prophet: Deut. 18:15-18
- Resurrected Messiah: Ps. 21:8-11
- Suffering Messiah: Isa. 53
- Suffering Messiah: Zech. 12:10

... just a few passages
Prophetic Reasons To Believe The Resurrection Occurred:

50-150 B.C.  Dead Sea scrolls
260 B.C.    Septuagint
450 B.C.    Jewish legend
Message of Scripture & History
Is . . .

Jesus fulfilled the prophecies!

After this, Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished to fulfill the Scripture said, “I am thirsty.” John 19:28
Message of Scripture Is . . .

Jesus came to save sinners!

It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. 1 Tim. 1:15
Message of Scripture Is . . .

Jesus came to give us abundant life!

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. John 10:10
Message of Scripture Is . . .

God will raise up Christians too!

Now God has not only raised the Lord, but will also raise us up through His power. 1 Cor. 6:14
God has given us Victory!

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord. 1 Corinthians 15:56-58
Rejoice,

He Is Risen!