

Risen: What Do You Know?! #1 of 5 with Rev. Dr. Gary Olsen



LUKE 24:36-49 TNIV

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷ They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?

- ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."
- ⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.
- ⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them,
- "Do you have anything here to eat?"

- ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,
- ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.
- 44 He said to them,
- "This is what I told you
- while I was still with you:
- everything must be fulfilled
- that is written about me
- in the Law of Moses,
- the Prophets,
- and the Psalms."

- ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.
- 46 He told them,
- "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."



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A CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE QUESTION:

What could possibly transform a group of cowardly followers, into movers and shakers of a worldwide movement at the extreme cost of their reputations, safety, and even lives?!

A COWARD

A SKEPTIC

AN ENEMY

A COWARD: Simon Peter

A SKEPTIC

AN ENEMY

A COWARD: Simon Peter

A SKEPTIC: James, Jesus' brother

AN ENEMY

A COWARD: Simon Peter

A SKEPTIC: James, Jesus' brother

AN ENEMY: Saul / Paul

A COWARD: SIMON PETER

- + Flees with disciples at arrest <u>Matthew</u> 26:47-56
- + Specifically denies Jesus during trial <u>Matthew</u> 26:69-75
- + Meeting behind locked doors John 20:19
- + The empty tomb is "nonsense"
- ... though personally verifies ...

<u>Luke</u> 24:11-12

TO THE COURAGEOUS: SIMON PETER

Peter speaks publicly to Jerusalem festival pilgrims Acts 2:14-41

Peter & John pray a healing at the Temple Acts 3

Court orders to stop preaching; they continue Acts 4:1-31

Sentenced to flogging, but they continue Acts 5:17-42

Stephen tried & executed <u>Acts</u> 6-7

TO THE COURAGEOUS: SIMON PETER

House to house searches to arrest Jerusalem church; fugitives preach where flee

Acts 8:1-4

Peter preaching in exile, converts a Roman centurion, then returns to Jerusalem!

Acts 9:32 thru 11:18

James (Zebedee) and Peter arrested by Herod; James executed, Peter miraculously escapes! Acts 12:1-19

Peter last seen still in Jerusalem for huge church meeting Acts 15:5-30

A SIBLING SKEPTIC: JAMES, JESUS' BROTHER

Named as Jesus' brother Mark 6:1-3

Does not believe in his brother John 7:5

Comes to take Jesus away because "he's out of his mind" <u>Mark</u> 3:20-21

TO THE LEADERSHIP CIRCLE: JAMES, JESUS' BROTHER

meets with the Jerusalem church
<u>Acts</u> 1:14

considered as an "apostle" <u>Galatians</u> 1:18-21

top leader of the Jerusalem church!
Acts 15:12-21; 21:17-20

AN ENEMY: SAUL / PAUL

persecuted the church, to the point of "obsession" <u>Galatians</u> 1:13; Acts 26:11

searched house-to-house for Jesus' followers inside and outside of Judea on authority of temple's chief priests

<u>Acts</u> 9:1-2; 26:10-12

goal to destroy the church <u>Galatians</u> 1:13, 23

seeks death penalty for Jesus' followers
Acts 9:1; 22:4-5; 26:10

TO THE EMISSARY: SAUL / PAUL

dramatic conversion to follow Jesus
<u>Acts</u> 9:3-22

meets with Jerusalem church leaders!

Acts 9:26-28

called to be a missionary

<u>Galatians</u> 1:15-16; Acts 13:1-3

imprisoned, beaten, stoned, & flogged ... for preaching! <u>2 Corinthians</u> 11:23-25

TO THE EMISSARY: SAUL / PAUL

arrested at Jerusalem temple!

<u>Acts</u> 21:33

tried before the Jewish Council, a Herod, and 2 Roman governors

<u>Acts</u> 22-26

death threats and appeals bring a transfer to Rome to testify before the Emperor Nero

<u>Acts</u> 22-28

+ focus of ½ of the New Testament!

the main character in 2nd half of <u>Acts</u>,

and author of 13 letters in New Testament!

Next week = The Documentary Evidence

By the highest standards of historical research, the life of Jesus has, by far, the best documentation of any ancient historical figure

The 3rd week =
The Medical Evidence

Certain death on a cross is the consensus for the participants, historians, medical experts, and even skeptical scholars

The 4th Week =
The Evidence of the Missing Body

The tomb is found empty complete with the embarrassing details of reliable testimony

The Last Week

= Eyewitness Evidence of Appearances

Reports of live, physical appearances of a supposedly dead Jesus pass the scrutiny of modern legal analysis

Today = Circumstantial Evidence

Unexplainable, life-changing experiences from cowards, skeptics, and even an enemies

A CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE QUESTION:

What could possibly transform

- + a cowardly follower,
- + a skeptical brother,
- + and a murderous enemy

into movers and shakers

of a worldwide movement

at the extreme cost

of their reputations, safety, and even lives?!

THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE ANSWER:

Nothing other than what the historical documents report:

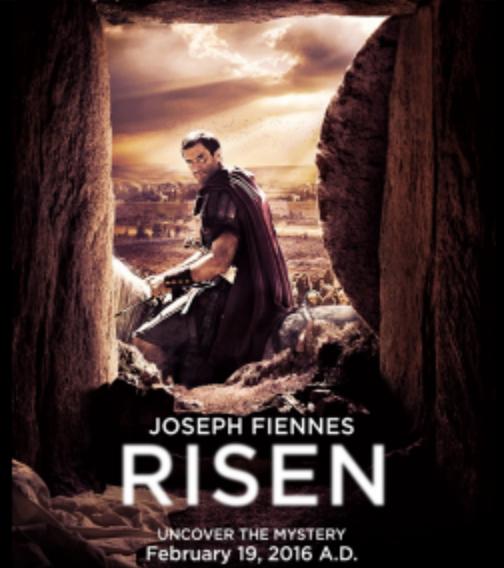
a life-changing experience of meeting someone risen from the dead!

TAKING IT ONE STEP FURTHER:

People **are** willing to die for what they **believe** to be true.

People are **not** willing to die for what they **know for a fact** is a bold-faced, made-up lie!

From Columbia Pictures and LD Entertainment in Association with AFFIRM Films, the studio that brought you WAR ROOM, COURAGEQUS and SOUL SURFER comes RISEN!



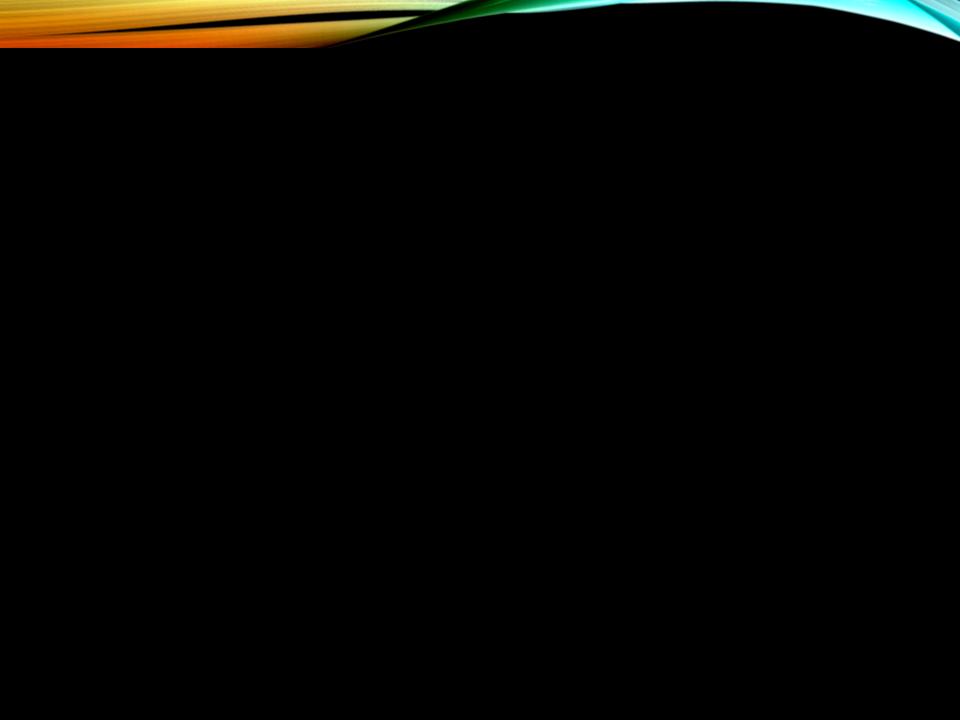




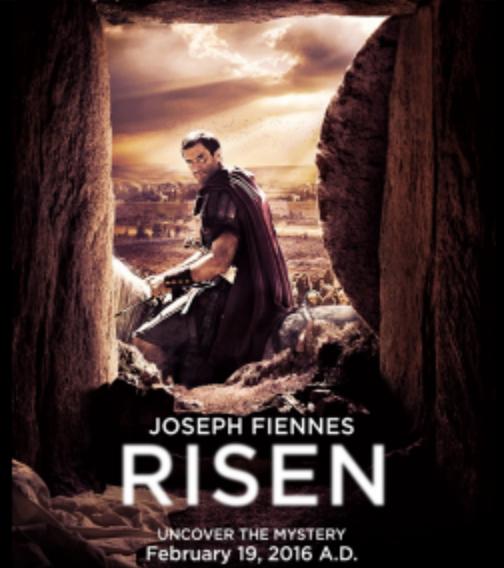








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- Then he opened their minds
 they could understand the Scriptures.
 He told them, "This is what is written:
- The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,
- ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.
- ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO

#1

Tell someone that lives can change

⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO

#2

Do your homework about the Bible!

44 Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." 45 Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO

#3

Be ready to act as a witness

⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

HERE IS WHAT YOU CAN DO

#4

Plug into the power source

49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

ACTS 2 TNIV

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven ...

⁴ All of them were filled

with the Holy Spirit

49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."