

Was Jesus more than a man?

APOLOGETICS

The Impact of Christ being Divine

The Divinity of Christ lies at the very heart of Christianity, serving as a foundational pillar upon which the entire faith rests. It is the pivotal truth that unlocks the deeper understanding of every other Christian belief. As followers of Christ, we embrace these beliefs as a unified whole, trusting in His authority without meticulously analyzing each aspect. The reason behind this unwavering trust is the profound recognition that if Christ is truly God, as we profess, then everything He uttered must possess both veracity and authority.

This divinity of Christ has a far-reaching impact on various core Christian teachings. For instance, the forgiveness of sins, a concept central to Christianity, is inextricably linked to the divinity of Christ. It is through His sacrificial death and subsequent resurrection that our sins are atoned for, granting us the opportunity for reconciliation with God. Similarly, the reality of hell, a place of eternal punishment for those who reject Christ's salvation, is grounded in His divine nature. It is because Christ is God that His words carry the weight of truth and authority, making His teachings about hell a matter of utmost significance.

Furthermore, the sacrament of communion, also known as the Eucharist, derives its profound meaning from the divinity of Christ. In this sacred act, we partake in the symbolic consumption of bread and wine, representing the body and blood of Christ. Through this act, we experience a deep spiritual connection with Christ and are reminded of His ultimate sacrifice. These are just a few examples of how the Divinity of Christ permeates the fabric of Christian beliefs, shaping our understanding of salvation, forgiveness, and the ultimate destiny of humanity.

To non-Christians, particularly those unfamiliar with Orthodox Christianity, the tenets of our faith may indeed seem challenging to comprehend. However, it is precisely the foundation of Christ's divinity that provides the necessary context and justification for these beliefs. It is through the lens of Christ's divinity that the intricate tapestry of Christianity unfolds, revealing its profound wisdom and transformative power.

Bare Bones Argument

When Christianity emerged, the divinity of Christ became the primary target of skepticism and opposition. Both Jews and Gentiles struggled to comprehend the notion that someone could be both fully human and fully divine.

For Jews, who had been taught since childhood that there was only one God, the idea of a human claiming to be God or even equal to God was seen as blasphemous. They questioned how Jesus, the

son of Joseph, a man known to them, could claim to have come down from heaven. “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?” – John 6:42

This tenet of Christ's divinity serves as a cornerstone of the Christian faith. Once an individual accepts this fundamental belief, it becomes the foundation for understanding the rest of the Christian doctrine. Intellectually, it establishes the truthfulness of all of Christ's teachings, while personally, it recognizes Him as both the Creator and Savior.

The significance of this belief lies in the dichotomy it presents: either Christ was truly divine, or he was a deceptive and wicked person. The implications of this choice shape the entire Christian theological framework and influence the way believers perceive and relate to God, themselves, and the world around them.

**“Most
assuredly, I say
to you, before
Abraham was,
I AM.”**

Did Jesus Say He Was God?

The question of whether Jesus claimed to be God has been debated for centuries. All people who read about Christ come to the same conclusion: He was a good person. Even Pilate saw nothing worth crucifying Him over, He came across as a wise good person.

There are many passages in the Bible that show clear support for the idea that Jesus claimed to be God. For example, in John 8:58, Jesus says, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." This statement is a direct reference to the name of God as revealed to Moses in the burning bush (Exodus 3:14). By claiming to be "I AM," Jesus was essentially saying that he was God.

In another passage, March 2, Jesus heals the paralytic. This passage illustrates the confusion of the Jews, and how Christ proclaims His divine authority:

And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, “Why do you question these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise, take up your bed and walk’?”

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins—*He said to the paralytic—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home.” And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We never saw anything like this!” - Mark 2-10-12*

Jesus was not a mere simple miracle worker. He went far beyond that - he claimed to forgive sins. He does this also in Luke 7 with the sinful woman - forgiving her sins. In this passage, the scribes asked a clear rhetorical question, “who can forgive sins but God alone?”. It’s a great question, and they knew the answer. They were the theologians of the time, and understood the implications. No one can forgive sins but God alone - this was precisely what Christ was proclaiming. No other man or prophet in history ever made such a claim. The implications are too great and clear.

However, there are also passages in the Bible that seem to suggest that Jesus did not claim to be God. For example, in Mark 10:18, Jesus says, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone." This statement seems to indicate that Jesus did not believe that he was God, but rather that he was simply a good man. This however must be understood in context.

The preceding verses describe the encounter between Jesus and the rich young ruler, who asks how to inherit eternal life. Jesus instructs him to follow the commandments, but the young man claims to have done so since childhood. Recognizing that something more is needed, Jesus then challenges him to sell his possessions, give to the poor, and follow him. This encounter highlights Jesus' focus on helping the rich young ruler understand the true nature of goodness and the importance of a personal relationship with God.

In this light, Jesus' response in Mark 10:18 can be seen as a redirection of the young man's attention away from external religious observances and towards a deeper understanding of God's nature. Rather than establishing his own divinity as a central point of the conversation, Jesus seeks to guide the young man towards a transformative realization of the absolute goodness of God and the potential for a profound relationship with him. Ultimately, Jesus' reply in Mark 10:18 serves as a call to recognize the true source of goodness and to pursue a life rooted in that divine reality.

To the Jews, everything was clear. Christ wanted:

1. Everyone to believe He was God
2. Everyone to worship Him
3. Everyone to know that He could forgive their sins

The Jews lost their minds at these notions. Even today, if we found somebody walking around making these claims what would we say about them?

2 Possibilities

The life of Christ and the events surrounding it present us with two distinct possibilities, each with profound implications. The central question is whether Jesus spoke the truth about His identity and teachings. If He spoke the truth, then He is indeed God, and we are called to believe in Him, worship Him, and follow His teachings. This conclusion would have far-reaching consequences for our understanding of life, morality, and our relationship with the divine.

"If He spoke the truth, then He is indeed God, and we are called to believe in Him, worship Him, and follow His teachings"

On the other hand, if what Jesus said was not true, we must consider the implications. If He was just a man claiming to be God, then His actions would be morally questionable at best. A person who knowingly deceives others into worshiping him, despite knowing that he is not divine, would be considered a deceptive liar and morally corrupt. Such a person would lack integrity, honesty, and compassion, which are essential qualities of a morally sound individual.

Furthermore, if Jesus genuinely believed He was God but was mistaken, then His mental state would come into question. In such a case, it would

be reasonable to consider Him intellectually or mentally unstable or even insane. Insanity is measured by the gap from what you think you are to what you really are. If I think I'm the smartest person in the world then I'm just arrogant but if I think I'm actually Albert Einstein in the flesh then I'm probably insane. Or If I think I'm an eagle I'm even further insane, now I've gone from one type of being to another. But if I think I'm God then I might be even more insane because I've jumped from the finite to the infinite which is an even bigger gap than the one between 2 finite things, even between a man and an eagle.

“Lord, Liar or Lunatic?”

This is called the trilemma by Josh McDowell. Let's say Christ is not actually Lord, then why isn't He a Liar or a Lunatic? Nobody who's read the gospels comes to that conclusion. Christ was too savvy, witty, wise, enchanting unless you are a prejudiced or hardened reader. Jesus has 3 qualities that sets Him apart from liars and lunatics:

1. **Wisdom:** the ability to read human hearts, to understand people and read between the lines of their words, the ability to heal people's spirits as well as their bodies. His wisdom extended beyond mere knowledge to the healing of both spirits and bodies, demonstrating His divine nature.
2. **Unconditional Love:** His winning love and passionate compassion drew people in, making them feel at home and forgiven. His authority, described as being distinct from that of the scribes, further set Him apart.
3. **Ability to astonish:** His unpredictability, his creativity. Liars and lunatics are dull and predictable! No one who knows both the Gospels and human beings can seriously entertain the possibility that Jesus was a liar or a lunatic, a bad man.

For those familiar with both the Gospels and human nature, it would be difficult to entertain the possibility that Jesus was either a liar or a lunatic. His exceptional qualities and the profound impact He has had on millions throughout history point to a divine origin that transcends human understanding.

Just a good man, a prophet, or a wise man?

Many unbelievers believe that Jesus was a good man, a prophet, or a wise man. Yet, if He was wise then would you not also trust and believe the things He said? Christ's core message was that He is the divine Savior of the world - a world in need of His gift of salvation. The reason this logic is airtight is because it's not about concepts but about Jesus Himself. It draws people in to read about Him in the Gospels and get to know Him. The rationale underlying this logic is compelling because it transcends abstract concepts and focuses on the central figure of Jesus Christ Himself. This approach effectively captivates readers, drawing them toward the Gospels to gain a deeper understanding and connection with Him. The basis of the argument is Jesus's character, His human nature. Similar to the ladder of Jacob, it begins on Earth with the humanity of the Son and leads you to His Divinity in Heaven. And He spoke to him, saying, "Verily, verily, I say to you, from now on, you will observe the heavens open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." - John 1:51 If He is a sage, you must accept his essential teaching as true. If his teaching is false, then He is not a sage.

“This is not believable”: What, then do people say when confronted with this argument? Often, they simply confess their prejudices: “Oh, I just can’t believe that!” But if it has been proved to be true, you must believe it if you really seek the truth! The best one can ask for is their openness for discussion for a seed to be planted. Through prayer, it may be that the ground will be softened up and plowed. The seed has been sown. God will give the increase.

Two Scholarly Attacks

Attack of “scholars” on the historical reliability of the Gospels: In that case, who invented traditional Christianity if not Christ? A lie, like a truth, must originate somewhere. Peter? The twelve? The next generation? What was the motive of whoever first invented the myth (euphemism for lie)? What did they get out of this elaborate, blasphemous hoax? For it must have been a deliberate lie, not a sincere confusion. No Jew confuses Creator with creature, God with man. And no man confuses a dead body with a resurrected, living one.

What if Jesus never claimed to be divine. Or all the embarrassing passages were inventions of the early Church? Here is what they got out of their hoax. Their friends and families scorned them. Their social standing, possessions, and political privileges were stolen from them by both Jews and Romans. They were persecuted, imprisoned, whipped, tortured, exiled, crucified, eaten by lions, and cut to pieces by gladiators. So some silly Jews invented the whole elaborate, incredible lie of Christianity for absolutely no reason, and millions of Gentiles believed it, devoted their lives to it, and died for it—for no reason. It was only a fantastic practical joke, a hoax. Yes, there is a hoax indeed, but the perpetrators of it are the twentieth-century theologians, not the Gospel writers.

Aquinas argues that if Christ was a mere man and the entire story was manufactured, then an even more unbelievable event happened: the conversion of the world by the biggest lie in history and the moral transformation of lives into unselfishness, detachment from worldly pleasures and new heights of holiness achieved by a mere myth!

The second is to Orientalize Jesus, describing Him like a Hindu mystic from history. The difference is Jesus said He was God and not that we are all gods. All other religious pioneers after Him claimed to know more about a god and not that they themselves were gods.

To interpret Him not as the unique God-man but as one of many mystics or “adepts” who realized his own inner divinity just as a typical Hindu mystic does. This theory takes the teeth out of his claim to divinity, for he only realized that everyone is divine. The problem with that theory is simply that Jesus was not a Hindu but a Jew! When he said “God”, neither he nor his hearers meant Brahman, the impersonal, pantheistic, immanent all; he meant Yahweh, the personal, theistic, transcendent Creator. It is utterly unhistorical to see Jesus as a mystic, a Jewish guru. He would ultimately also be one of the worst teachers in history as He failed to illustrate this message to anyone in over 2 millennia. He taught prayer, not meditation. His God is a person, not a projection or illusion. He said he was God but not that everyone was. He taught sin and forgiveness, as no guru does. He said nothing about the “illusion” of individuality, as the mystics do.



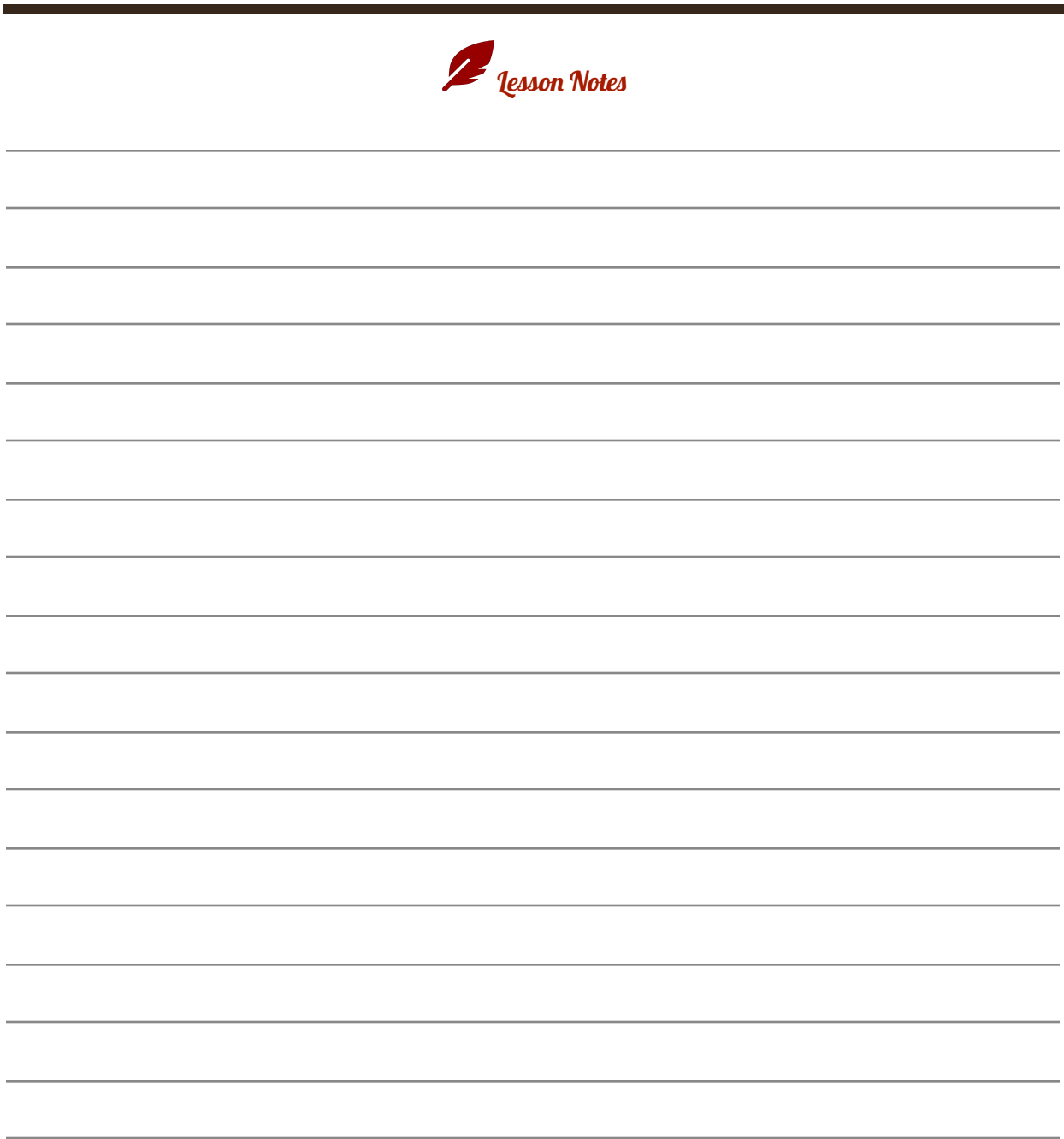
Review Questions

1. What was the first thing to be attacked when Christianity was first being preached? (A: Christ's divinity)
2. True or false? Christ wanted everyone to believe He was God. (A: True)
3. What are the two natural responses? (A: This is unbelievable, or wondering and shaking their heads and thinking)
4. True or false? The first escape is the attack of "scholars" on the historical reliability of the Gospel. (A: True)
5. What is one difference between Jesus Christ and other religious pioneers? (A: Jesus said He was God and not that we are all gods.)



Books & References

1. Peter Kreeft,  *Handbook of Christian Apologetics* , Chapter 7, Intervarsity Press; 1994, https://www.google.com/books/edition/Handbook_of_Christian_Apologetics/1DH1ZPyTkiC?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover



The Account of the Resurrection

APOLOGETICS

Impact of the Resurrection

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is a cornerstone event in Christianity that completes humanity's salvation and holds profound significance for believers. As stated in 1 Corinthians 15:14-19, the apostle Paul emphasizes that if Christ had not risen from the dead, the Christian faith and preaching would be futile, and believers' faith would be empty. "If Christ is not risen, then our preaching *is* empty and your faith *is* also empty. Yes, and we are found false witnesses of God, because we have testified of God that He raised up Christ, whom He did not raise up—if in fact the dead do not rise. For if *the* dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. And if Christ is not risen, your faith *is* futile; you are still in your sins! Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable."

The Resurrection affirms that Jesus conquered death and fulfilled the promise of salvation. It is not merely a historical event but an ongoing reality that continues to impact the present. In the Orthodox services, we say "Christ is risen from the dead" (present), not "Christ rose from the dead" (past). It is not a historical event, it is a present day reality that is continuous. Christ is risen. Unlike Lazarus, who was resuscitated and would eventually die again, Jesus' Resurrection represents a transformation into a spiritually glorified body that is not subject to decay or death. He did not rise as a ghost, He rose with a real Body. He did not reincarnate nor take on a new human body. Christ is risen with His spiritually glorified body, and it is not a legend, nor a myth, nor an illusion of some sort. The empty tomb of Jesus stands as a testament to His Resurrection and distinguishes Him from other religious founders whose remains can still be found on earth.

The belief in the Resurrection is rooted in the biblical accounts and the testimonies of eyewitnesses. The apostles and disciples encountered the risen Christ, and their lives were transformed as they witnessed His appearances and received the Holy Spirit. The evidence for the Resurrection is further supported by the fact that the early church faced intense persecution and martyrdom, yet the followers of Jesus remained steadfast in their faith, demonstrating their conviction in His Resurrection and the hope it brought.

In contrast to the Resurrection, there are various theories that attempt to explain the events surrounding Jesus' death and disappearance. These theories, such as the Substitution, Swoon, Conspiracy, Hallucination, and Myth theories, seek to provide alternative explanations for the Resurrection. However, upon examination, these theories lack sufficient evidence and fail to account for the historical testimonies, eyewitness accounts, and the transformative impact of the Resurrection

on the lives of believers throughout history. Let us then attempt to refute all possible assumptions such that the one remaining is the only one possible. We will begin with assumptions that Christ did not die and the associated theories, then follow with theories associated with Christ historically dying on the cross, which is not a contested event.

#	Assumption #1	Assumption #2	Theory
1	Jesus didn't die	Jesus didn't die; a look-a like was crucified in his place	Substitution
2	Jesus didn't die	Jesus didn't die; he Merely fainted & later revived in tomb	Swoon
3	Jesus died	Jesus didn't rise; apostles were deceivers	Conspiracy
4	Jesus died	Jesus didn't rise; apostles were deceived	Hallucination
5	Jesus died	Jesus didn't rise; apostles were myth-makers	Myth

Theory #1 - Substitution Theory (You Have the Wrong Man)

The substitution theory believes that Christ prayed for protection and didn't die, so therefore, someone with the resemblance of Christ was Crucified in His place. Islam here takes the most critical element, and casts doubt on it. Without which, there is no purpose for Islam (reminiscing of the serpent and Eve). This theory originated from them, for them. More importantly, who was this man and where are his remains? And why would his body disappear and make it look like a resurrection? If Christ survived, the disciples had no purpose to steal, and God had no reason to raise the innocent man. Is then God a murderer? Causing an innocent man to die? This significantly changes details about the person of God. The number of eyewitness accounts is too significant to consider this theory even plausible.

Theory #2 - Swoon Theory (Fainted & Alive)

The swoon theory, also known as the apparent death theory, is a fringe belief that questions whether Jesus Christ actually died on the cross. Proponents of this theory argue that Jesus merely fainted during the crucifixion and later revived in the tomb. One of the main arguments in favor of the swoon theory is that the Bible itself contains passages that seem to indicate that Jesus did not actually die on the cross. For example, in the Gospel of Matthew, it is said that after Jesus was crucified, he was taken down from the cross and placed in a tomb. The tomb was then sealed with a large stone, and Roman soldiers were stationed to guard it. However, on the third day, the tomb was found to be empty, and Jesus' body was nowhere to be found.

This has led some people to believe that Jesus did not actually die on the cross, but rather that he was merely unconscious and later revived. They point to the fact that Jesus was not pierced in the heart, which is where a Roman soldier would typically spear a crucified victim to ensure death. They also note that Jesus' body was not embalmed, which was the customary practice at the time.

However, the vast majority of Christian scholars and theologians reject the swoon theory. They argue that the evidence presented in favor of the theory is not convincing, and that it is more likely that Jesus did actually die on the cross.

There are several reasons why the swoon theory is not widely accepted. First, it contradicts the teachings of the Bible. The Bible clearly states that Jesus died on the cross and was resurrected three days later. Second, there is no historical evidence to support the theory. There are no records of anyone resembling Jesus being crucified in his place. Third, the theory raises a number of theological problems. If Jesus did not actually die on the cross, then it means that he did not atone for the sins of humanity. This would undermine the entire foundation of Christianity. For all of these reasons, the swoon theory is rejected by the vast majority of Christians. It is a fringe belief that is not supported by the evidence.

In addition to the arguments mentioned above, there are a number of other reasons why the swoon theory is not credible. For example, it is difficult to believe that Jesus would have been able to survive the crucifixion even if he had not actually died. The crucifixion was a horrific form of execution, and it is unlikely that anyone could have survived it without sustaining serious injuries. Romans procedures are quite strict, which is why they typically break legs, to speed up death. His lungs, water & blood gushing out, clearly indicate that his lungs collapsed, and cause of death was asphyxiation. “Then they took the body of Jesus, and bound it in strips of linen with the spices, as the custom of the Jews is to bury.” (John 19:38-42)! The level of shock in the appearances of Christ left everyone convinced of death. Did they really not check for a pulse? And if it was weak, it suddenly came back without any help? Christ came out alone in a faint state and rolled over the stone and overpower the soldiers, all alone? And no one cared to mention anywhere? How then afterwards, did He disappear? No one cared to say anything?

The swoon theory does not explain how Jesus was able to escape from the tomb. The tomb was sealed with a large stone, and Roman soldiers were stationed to guard it. It is difficult to believe that Jesus would have been able to overcome the guards and escape from the tomb without being detected. Finally, the swoon theory raises a number of theological problems. If Jesus did not actually die on the cross, then it means that he did not atone for the sins of humanity. This would undermine the entire foundation of Christianity. For all of these reasons, the swoon theory is not a credible belief. It is a fringe theory that is not supported by the evidence.

Theory #3 - Conspiracy Theory (The Last Conspiracy)

This theory has two different components to it. The first gets us to revisit the Last Supper under the assumption that there is some type of conspiracy. Maybe that is why Christ told Judas “Then Jesus said to him, ‘What you do, do quickly.’” (John 13:27) Within the context of a conspiracy still seems to hit a nice echo. Right? The Last Conspiracy. Why is this not the case? What evidence that this is a misportrayal of events? Judas hanged himself! See how gullible our human nature and our faith can be? It fails to think when half logical challenges seem to arise. But let us continue further, Jesus truly dies, the disciples are distressed and conspire together to give value to their experience with Him.

The second component of the conspiracy indicates that Christ died and did not rise, but the disciples in agreement conspired as 'deceivers' to say so to give value to their experience with Him. No one, weak or strong, saint or sinner, Christian or heretic, ever confessed, freely or under pressure, bribe or even torture, that the whole story of the resurrection was a fake, a lie, a deliberate deception. Can a conspiracy and web of lies continue for so long? Was St. Paul apparition, the persecutor of Christians, a lie? Were they all martyred for something they knew was a lie? None of them said to themselves this lie is not worth death? Did unarmed poor disciples really overpower Roman soldiers or roll away a great stone silently while guards remained asleep? Did no one at the time really not think to try to expose this as fraud? Examinations were without a shadow of a doubt conducted. The conspiracy theory clearly fails in light of all the other events of history.

Theory #4 - Hallucination Theory

The hallucination theory, which proposes that Jesus did not physically resurrect and that the apostles were deceived by hallucinations, faces significant challenges. One key objection is the length and frequency of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. Hallucinations typically last only a few seconds or minutes, not 40 days as described in Acts 1:3. Additionally, Jesus appeared to many people on multiple occasions, including hundreds at a time. It is highly unlikely that all these individuals would simultaneously experience the same hallucination.

Furthermore, hallucinations typically arise from within the individual's mind and lack external stimuli. In contrast, Jesus' post-resurrection appearances involved unexpected actions and interactions that were unlike dreams. For example, he ate fish in Luke 24:42 to demonstrate his physical presence and allowed his disciples to touch him in Matthew 28:9. These actions suggest that Jesus' appearances were not mere hallucinations.

The fact that the disciples themselves initially doubted Jesus' resurrection also argues against the hallucination theory. If the disciples were prone to hallucinations, they would have been more likely to believe in Jesus' resurrection from the start. Instead, they required physical evidence, such as eating fish and being touched, to be convinced.

Additionally, the hallucination theory fails to explain the absence of Jesus' body from the tomb. If Jesus' body had been stolen, it would have been a major conspiracy involving multiple individuals. Yet, there is no historical evidence to support such a conspiracy.

Overall, the hallucination theory presents several significant challenges that undermine its credibility. The length and frequency of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances, the unexpected actions and interactions during these appearances, the initial skepticism of the disciples, and the absence of Jesus' body from the tomb all suggest that Jesus' resurrection was a genuine historical event.

Theory #5 - Myth Theory

The myth theory, which asserts that Jesus did not actually resurrect and that the apostles were mere myth-makers, presents a compelling argument. The natural writings of each author, however, reveal distinct perspectives and focus on various details of the same events, reflecting their individual

viewpoints. Unlike forgers, there is no attempt at harmonization among the Gospels. If the empty tomb were an invented legend, its inventors surely would not have had it discovered by women, whose testimony was considered worthless!

Myths typically evolve over centuries, and it is highly unlikely that no external source would have referred to the entire story as a myth or legend at some point in time. There is substantial evidence contradicting the myth theory. The story of Christ spread rapidly throughout Europe, Eastern Asia, and North Africa within a century, suggesting a profound impact on contemporary witnesses. Several early Christian writings, such as the letters of Barnabas and Clement, mention Jesus' miracles and resurrection. Polycarp, Irenaeus, Ignatius, Quadratus, and Justin Martyr also provide testimonies supporting the resurrection and other miraculous events attributed to Jesus.

Furthermore, there is significant external evidence from reputable sources like Tacitus, Josephus, and Philo, corroborating the existence of Jesus and the extraordinary events surrounding his life. If the empty tomb were a fabricated legend, its inventors would have likely attributed its discovery to more credible individuals than women, whose testimony held little weight at the time. Conversely, if the writers were merely reporting their firsthand experiences, they would have been compelled to convey the truth, regardless of potential social and legal ramifications.

In addition to the historical testimonies, the Gospels demonstrate an intimate knowledge of Jerusalem prior to its destruction in 70 AD, providing accurate details of proper names, dates, cultural nuances, historical events, and prevailing customs and opinions of that era. These elements further substantiate the reliability and authenticity of the Gospel accounts.

While the myth theory offers an alternative interpretation of the origins of Christianity, the overwhelming historical evidence and contemporary testimonies strongly support the belief in Jesus' resurrection and the transformative impact it had on early Christians and subsequent generations.



Review Questions

1. Why is the resurrection of Christ an essential part of our faith? (A: The Resurrection is a cornerstone event of our faith because it completes our salvation.)
2. What does the substitution theory state? (A: Someone with the resemblance of Christ was Crucified in His place on the cross.)
3. True or False? The swoon theory questions if Christ even survived the crucifixion since it believes that Jesus merely fainted and later revived in the tomb. (A: True)
4. Fill in the blank. The myth theory believes that Jesus did not actually rise and that the apostles were _____. (A: Myth makers.)
5. True or False? The hallucination theory is founded on the concept that Jesus did not rise and that the apostles were deceived by a hallucination. (A: True)



Books & References

1. Peter Kreeft,  Handbook of Christian Apologetics , Chapter 8, Intervarsity Press; 1994,
https://www.google.com/books/edition/Handbook_of_Christian_Apologetics/1DH1ZPyTtkIC?hl=en&gbpv=1&printsec=frontcover
2. Lee Strobel,  Case for Christ Part III, ZondervanPublishingHouse; 1998,
https://www.google.com/books/edition/The_Case_for_Easter/S8_qUo8W3OcC?hl=en&gbpv=1&dq=Case+for+Ester&printsec=frontcover

