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**John 20:28 - 31 (NASB)** <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

<sup>29</sup>Jesus said\* to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you believed? Blessed *are* they who did not see, and *yet* believed."

<sup>30</sup>Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

<sup>31</sup>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.

**1 Corinthians 2:1 - 2 (NASB)** <sup>1</sup>And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God. <sup>2</sup>For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.

**1 Corinthians 15:1 - 4 (NASB)** <sup>1</sup>Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. <sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

### **Why the Resurrection Matters to You**

**It is history's most significant event.**

The validity of Jesus' claims about Himself rests on the Resurrection -- whether He rose from the dead or stayed in the grave.

Many skeptics say that to believe in a risen Christ is nothing more than a blind leap of faith with little or no basis in truth.

When confronted with the facts, however, those who are intellectually honest have been forced to admit that the Resurrection is an historical event based on irrefutable proofs.

### **Evidence for the Resurrection**

- 1st, Christ predicted His resurrection. The Bible records, "From that time Jesus began to show His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things ... and be killed, and be raised up on the third day" (Matt. 16:21, NASB). Even though His followers did not understand what He was telling them at the time, they remembered His words and recorded them.
- 2nd, Jesus made numerous appearances to His followers. He comforted the mourners outside His tomb on Sunday morning. On the road to Emmaus, He explained things about Himself from the Old Testament. Later, He ate in their presence and invited them to touch Him. Scripture records that Jesus was seen by more than 500 at one time.
- 3rd, the unrelenting faith of the disciples convinces me of the Resurrection. Those disciples who were once so afraid that they deserted their Lord now courageously proclaimed this news, risking their lives to preach.
- 4th, the growth of the Christian church confirms the Resurrection. Peter's first sermon, which dealt with Christ's resurrection, stirred people to receive Him as their living Savior. Luke records the thrilling results: "That day there were added about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). And that group of believers has multiplied until now it reaches around the world. Today, there are hundreds of millions of believers.
- Finally, the testimony of hundreds of millions of transformed lives through the centuries shows the power of the Resurrection.
- The Resurrection sets Christianity apart. No other religious leader has broken the power of death and conquered sin.