

The Greatest Event

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Some people put their trust in tradition, others rely on personal experience, still others follow what is popular, but few take time to critically evaluate their world view.

During the reign of Napoleon the Great, a Frenchman by the name M. Lepeaux, invented a new religion based on the notion that man is divine. He believed his newfound faith would replace the old and bring a cosmic utopia. But despite his hard work and great enthusiasm, he received very little support from the public.

Discouraged and disappointed he went to see his old friend Talleyrand Perigord to get some wisdom on how he could promote his new faith. Talleyrand agreed that starting a new religion is not an easy matter. But after much reflection, this wise man said, "In order to start his movement Jesus Christ died and rose again, I suggest that you do the same." Needless to say, the new prophet was not too impressed.

Anyone can start a new religion but to conquer death is another matter. In the pages of history, only one person successfully defeated death and proved it. Death, our greatest enemy, is not the end of our journey. God has conquered death and defeated it. He is able to resurrect life. The real mystery is how atheists would believe that a rock one day became Dwayne Johnson but doubt that an Atom could become Adam. They believe in miracles without a miracle worker.

At a recent seminar, an American lady asked a question, "A young man told me when you die that's it. What would you say to him?" I replied that it was an assumption but an assumption with no evidence. An unproven dogma. Are we absolutely sure there is no life after death? On what ground do we affirm that? To deny life after

death you must have total knowledge of all reality. No finite being can state categorically there is no life after death. It's a blind faith. If life could exist in the first place then the resurrection of life is not a logical impossibility. The facts that we live in a universe where life is a reality, by what logic can we argue that the resurrection of life is impossible. The origin of life is still a mystery to modern science, hence the impossible is possible. Didn't Einstein face this paradox when he declared, "The most incomprehensible aspect of the universe is that it's comprehensible."

From a logical point of view, if life is possible then the resurrection of life is not a problem. The resurrection of Christ set him apart from every person who ever walked on this earth. The resurrection explains the empty tomb, the reason for the courage of the disciples, the origin of the Church and the testimony of the early disciples who died believing it was true.

G. B. Hardy put the matter in perspective in his popular book "The Countdown" when he wrote, "There are essentially two requirements: has anyone cheated death and proved it and is it available for me." Here is the record, Confucius' tomb occupied, Buddha's tomb occupied, Mohammad's tomb occupied, and Marx' tomb occupied. Argue as you will it's no point in following losers.

Jesus' resurrection makes him unique and his resurrection makes all the difference. It confirms the faith of the believer, comforts the soul of the grieving saints, completes the search for the sceptics, and opens the door to a new life. It is the foundation of Christianity; the fact behind the faith. The song of the Saints is, "I serve a risen Saviour." What hope we have? In a broken world of pain, sorrow and death, He turns our tears into joy, our Sunset into Sunrise.

**On Christ the solid Rock,
I stand, all other ground
is sinking sand.**