

Nine Facts That Even Most Skeptics Admit

{Adapted from Gary Habermas and Antony Flew, *Did Jesus rise from the Dead? The Resurrection Debate* (Harper & Row, Publishers, San Francisco, 1987)}

- Fact #1 Belief in the resurrection of Jesus was well developed within a few years of the beginning of the church in Jerusalem.
- Fact # 2 Jesus died on the cross.
- Fact # 3 Jesus' death caused the disciples to despair and lose hope.
- Fact #4 Jesus was buried in a tomb discovered to be empty within a few days.
- Fact #5 The disciples had experiences that they believed were literal appearances of the risen Jesus.
- Fact #6 The disciples who had been afraid became the first leaders of the church, and were willing to face persecution for their testimony to the resurrection.
- Fact #7 Sunday became the day of assembly for Christian congregations early in the history of Christianity.
- Fact #8 James, the brother of Jesus was an unbeliever during Jesus' lifetime, but a believer soon after Jesus' death. He became an important leader in the church and was a witness to a resurrection appearance.
- Fact # 9 Paul, a fierce opponent of Christianity, was converted by his experience of the resurrected Jesus.

Taken together, these nine facts create a very strong case for the resurrection.