

Any questions on  
anything  
I have taught?

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## Eschatology (2)

# Pretribulation Rapture

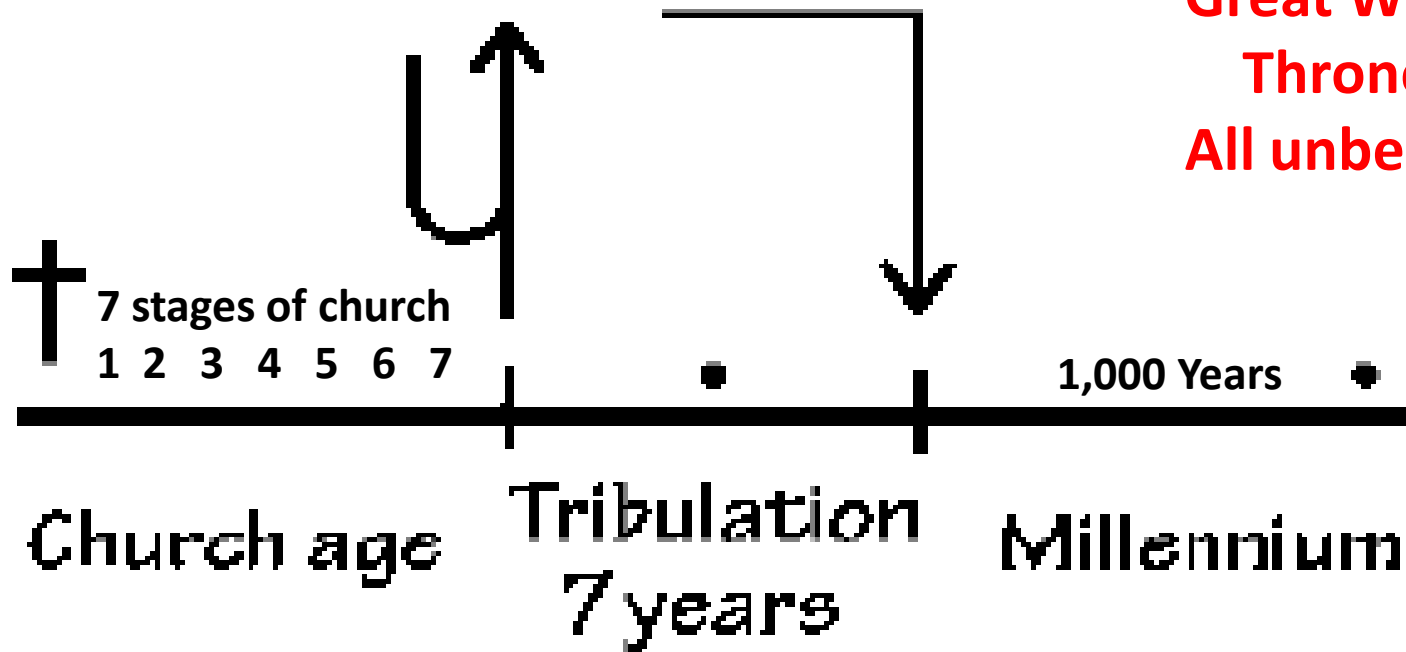
Judgment Seat of Christ=

C.A. believers only

Rapture

Second  
Advent

Great White  
Throne =  
All unbelievers



# Spiritual Foundations: Eschatology (2)

## **THE JUDGMENT SEAT (βῆμα) OF CHRIST**

**2 Corinthians 5:10** For we must (δεῖ) all appear before the judgment seat (βῆμα) of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good (ἀγαθόν) or worthless (φαιδλον).

- ✓ Background of Bema of Christ.
- ✓ Issue = quality of works (HS or flesh)
- ✓ Issue is not about who gets into heaven

# The Most Critical and Greatest Challenge in Life

**1 John 2:28** And now, little children, abide in Him (μένετε ἐν αὐτῷ), so that when He appears, we may have confidence (παρρησίαν) and not shrink away from Him in shame in His presence (παρουσία).

**John 15:5** "I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me (ὁ μένων ἐν ἐμοὶ), and I in him, he bears much fruit; for apart from Me you can do nothing (οὐ δύνασθε ποιεῖν οὐδέν).

❖ What are some of the fruits?

# RESULTS OF THE JUDGMENT SEAT (βῆμα) OF CHRIST

**Revelation 19:7** "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." <sup>8</sup> And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright *and* clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts (τὰ δικαιώματα) of the saints.

- ✓ The rewards of the believers will be represented in the attire of the Bride of Christ through all of eternity.

# **The Bedrock for a Vibrant Growing Spiritual Life**

(Prerequisites for the supergrace and ultra-supergrace life)

**1- Salvation by grace through faith, Titus 3:5. Living in appreciation of our so great grace salvation.**

- **Titus 3:5** *He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,*

**2- Fellowship with Christ (=FHS), Jn 15:1-5, Very productive spiritual life with Christ. HS's ministry of inner assurance.**

**3- Spiritual maturity. Advancing through the tests and challenges of life—never quitting! You are going to have to fight for the faith.**

- **2 Tim 4:7**, *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;*

# Resurrection – 2

## The Crucifixion and Historical Timeline

### Defeat all Skeptics

- 1. The importance of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, 1 Cor. 15:1-11.**
  - a. First importance (έν πρώτοις), 3. This points to first in time and importance: the fundamental facts, the basics, the bedrock of Christianity.
  - b. Historical facts are the bedrock upon which we have divine revelation, Christianity, Bible doctrine, CWL, philosophy, the supernatural, omnipotent actions in history, and the unveiling of God and man. There is no Christianity w/o supernatural.

- c. **“Christ died”** (Χριστὸς ἀπέθανεν, vs. 3) He does not say that Jesus died. The emphasis is on Christ because that is the name of His office, into which is condensed the whole system of truth, declaring that it is He who fulfills God’s purposes for man. The death of merely a “Jesus” brings no gospel at all.
- d. **“for our sins”** (ὕπὲρ τῶν ἁμαρτιῶν ἡμῶν), 3. Importance of orientation to salvation by grace through faith. He died as an expiation and sacrifice for man’s sins. He bore the punishment.



- e. **“according to the Scriptures”** (κατὰ τὰς γραφὰς). He fulfilled God’s purposes. Thus far, we have the dignity of the Person, the purpose of His death, and the fulfillment of divine intent.
  
- f. **“He was raised (ἐγήγερται) on the third day.”**  
The perfect tense here points to permanency. A dead Christ would never have been the basis of a living Church.
  
- g. **The witnesses, 5-9.** Much more difficult to believe that 500 people hallucinated than the miracle of resurrection in context of WOG.

- h. Note the unanimity of the gospel with the “we” of 15:11 in contrast to the charges made today that Paul invented Christ as God and started his own brand of Christianity.
  
- i. Paul is despised among orthodox Jews. They often use his humble statements against him. Paul was never liked or appreciated or understood. He was in many ways very lonely. This is the price one pays for living for Bible doctrine in the Christ-centered life.

## 2. **5 Evidences for the resurrection of Christ. Anyone can SAY he is the Son of God.**

- a. Evidence #1: the execution. Jesus was unquestionably dead due to crucifixion.
- b. Evidence #2: Everyone at the scene agreed that the tomb was empty on Sunday. How did it get empty?
- c. Evidence #3: We have early accounts. These are not legends that grew up centuries afterwards. This early creed includes eyewitnesses.
- d. Evidence #4: Eyewitness of over 500 who encountered the resurrected Jesus and whose lives were changed.
- e. Evidence #5: The early emergence of the church in the very city Jesus was put to death. It could not be stopped with persecution. Consider Peter's sermon on the resurrection. Consider the 3,000 who believed. This is inexplicable without the resurrection.

- 3. Attacks on the resurrection of Christ by liberal professors, Islam, and the media (kosmos).**
  - a. Jesus was not crucified and thus did not die on the cross.
  - b. The apostle Paul invented a new Christ, a new Christianity, and a new gospel.
  - c. The gospels were created in the second century. There is no evidence of early Christianity.
  - d. Christianity was created in A.D. 325 by Constantine.

## 4. Attacks on Christianity in the cinema. It is not enough for Christians to answer with “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.”

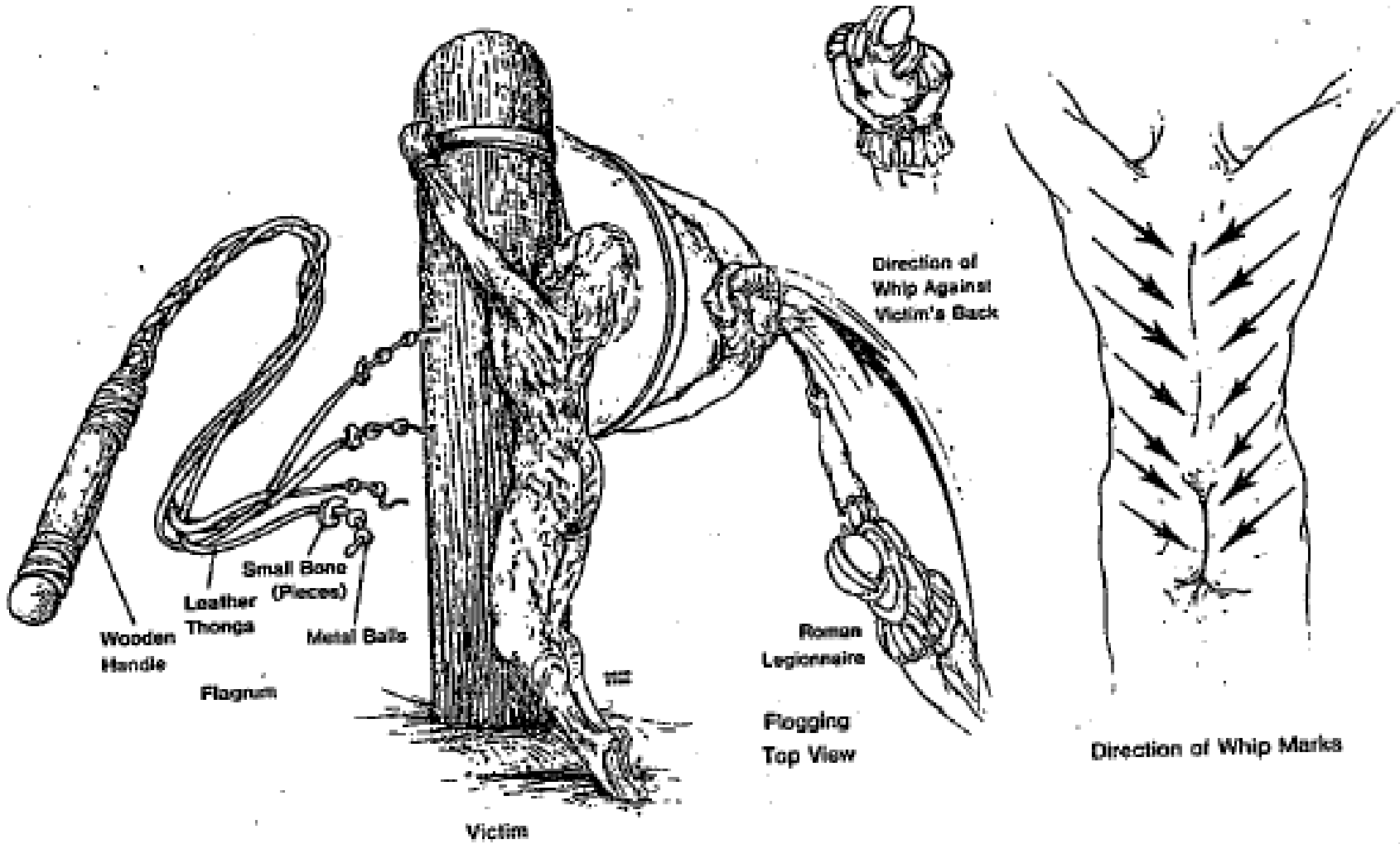
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### The Claims of *The Da Vinci Code*

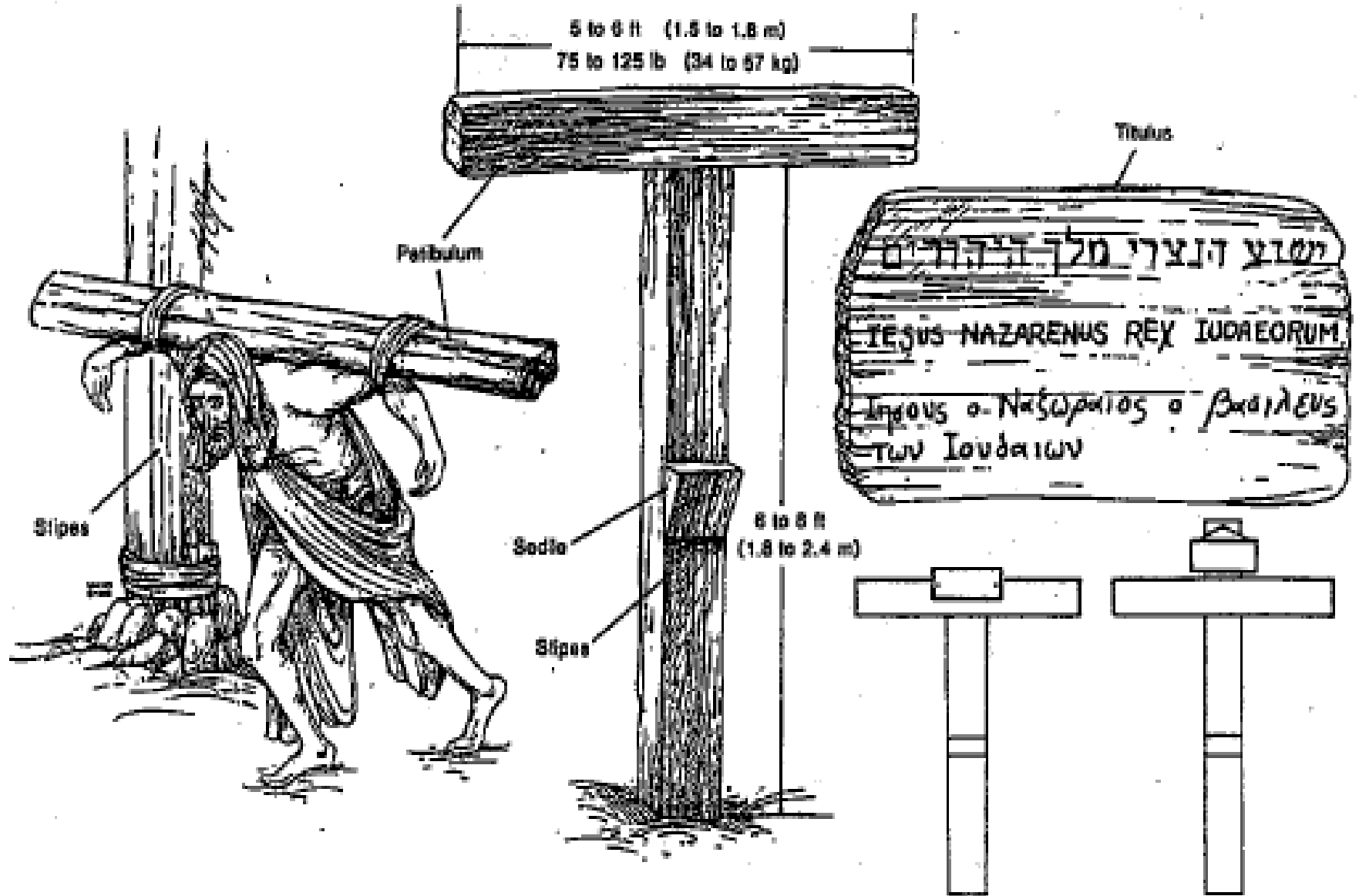
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1. The Christian doctrine of the deity of Christ was the result of a close vote among church leaders convening at the Council of Nicea in 325 AD.
2. The Bible as we know it was collated by Constantine at the Council of Nicea in 325 AD.
3. The story of Jesus is more accurately contained within the Gnostic documents than in the New Testament and shows a mere human Jesus.
4. This story also shows that Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene and fathered children.
5. The Christian religion is an amalgamation of themes from several ancient mystery religions.

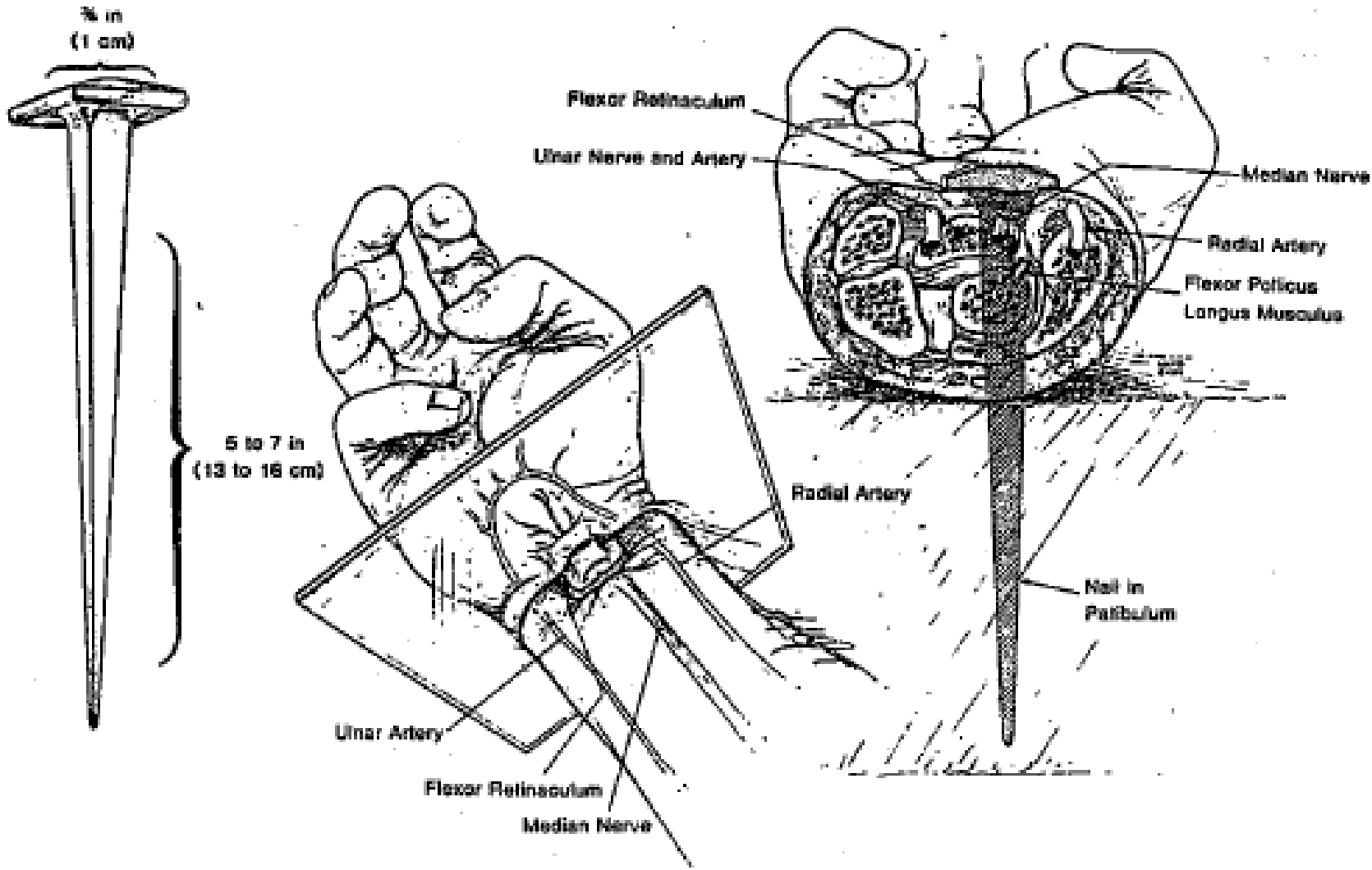
# 5. Overview of the Crucifixion of Christ: Scourging/flogging.



# Flogged victim carried His cross to the place of crucifixion

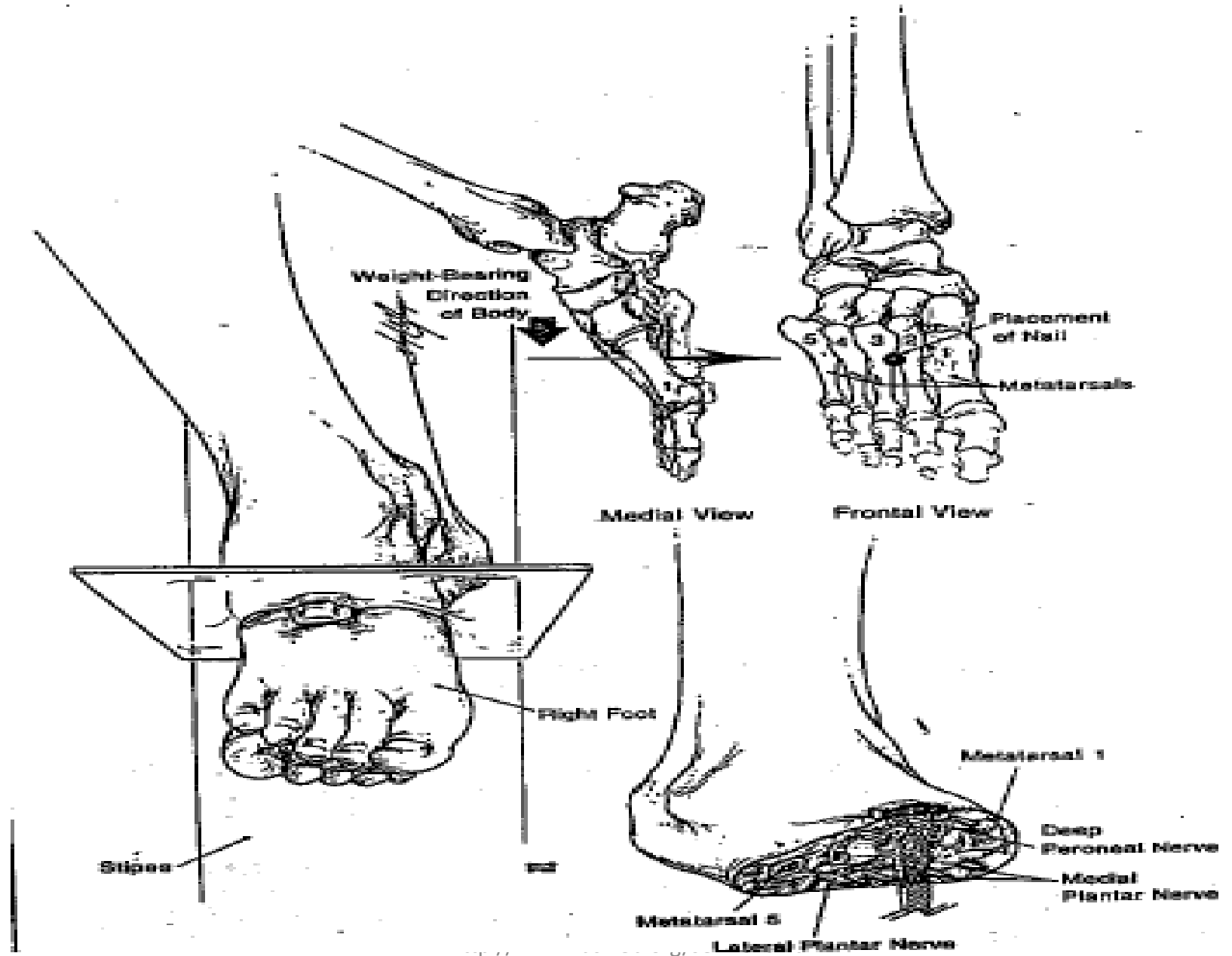


# With arms outstretched, 5"-7" iron nails were driven through His wrists

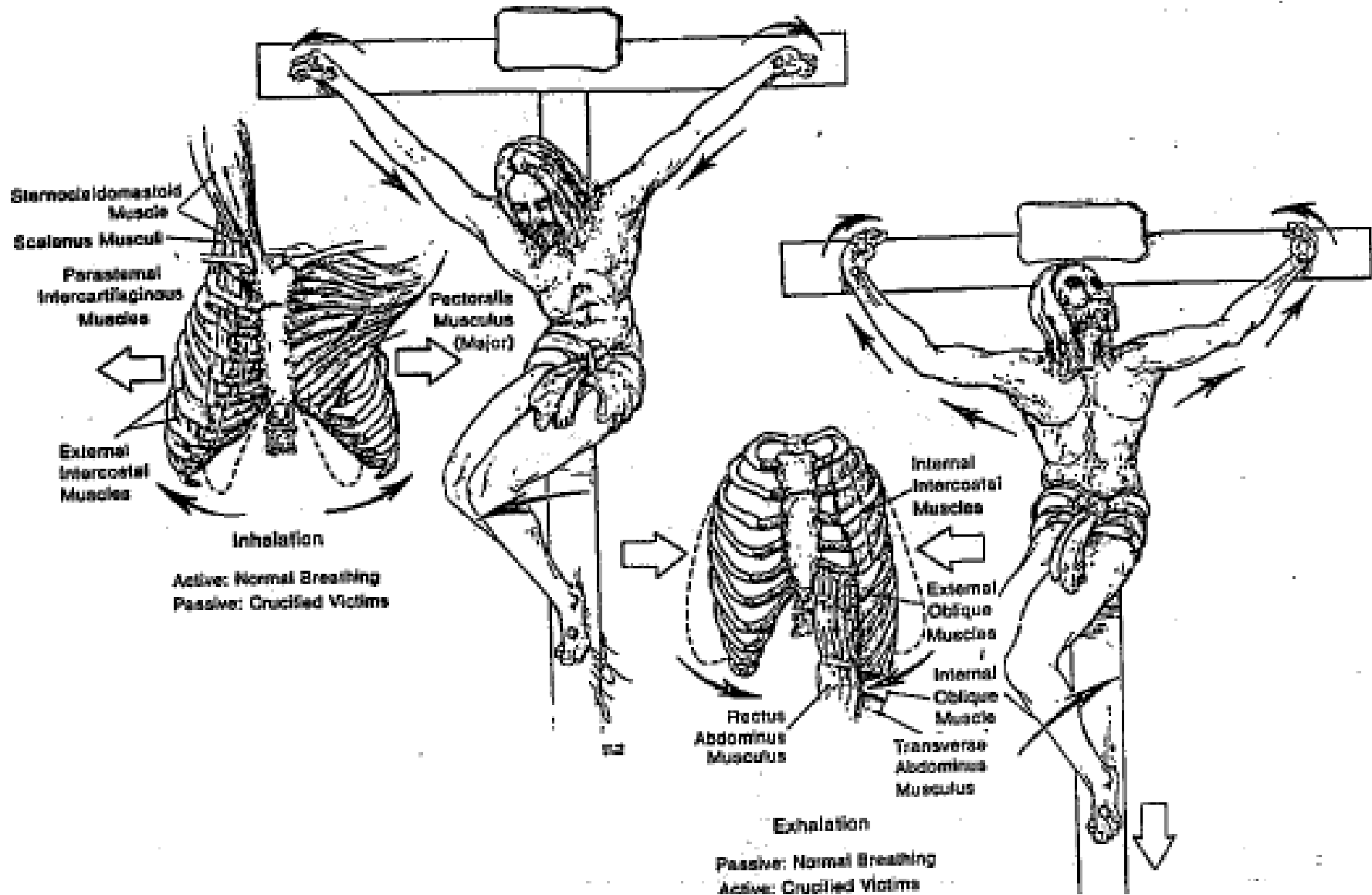




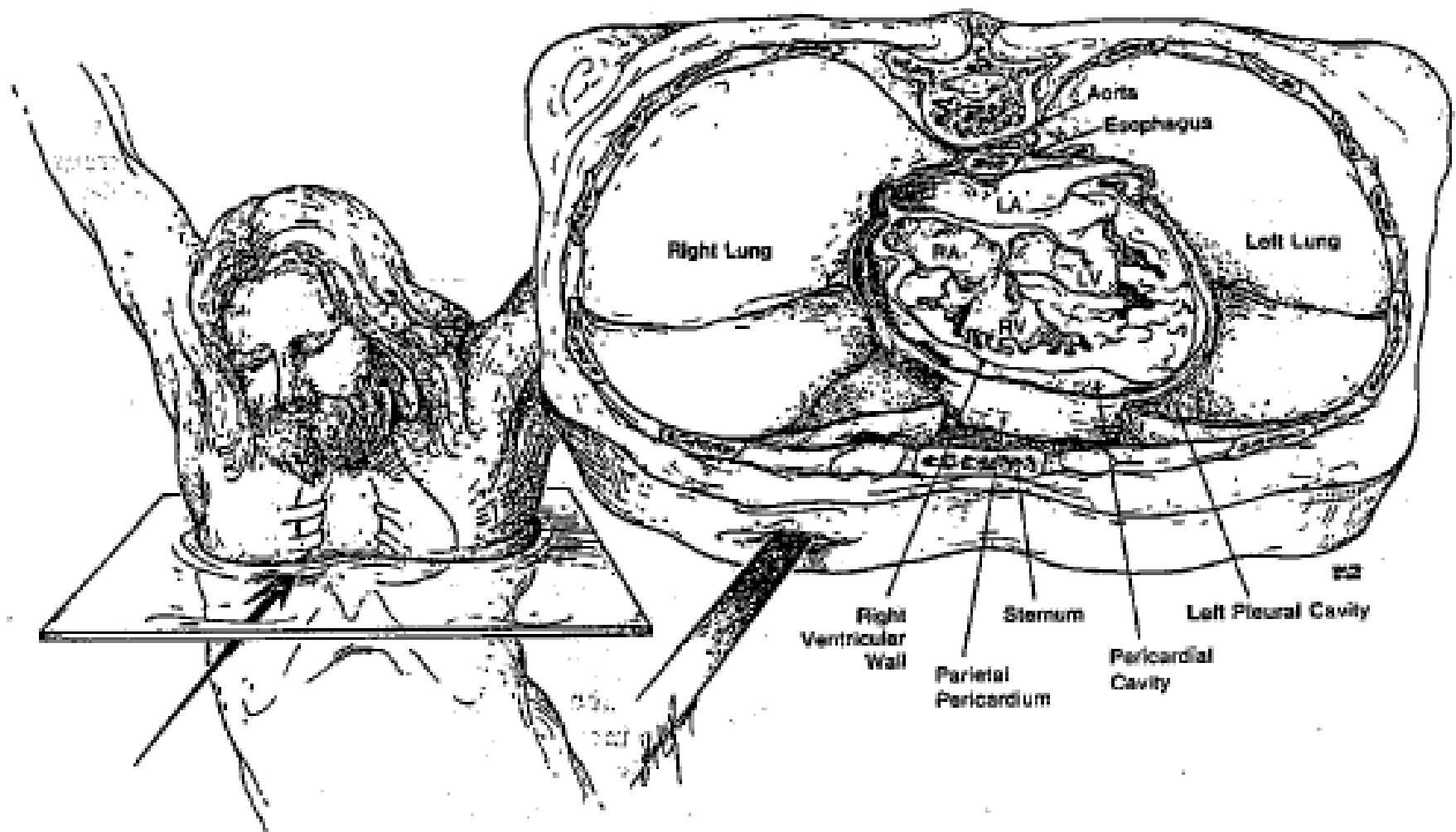
# Top of feet were pierced with iron tapered nails



# Death by crucifixion was essentially death by asphyxiation.



**Jesus was dead before spear was cast through His side - the phenomenon of “sucking chest syndrome.”**



## 6. Significance of crucifixion on the resurrection.

- ✓ Even most critical *scholars* say that the death of Jesus is the most assured fact of ancient history
- ✓ Considering the flogging, the crucifixion, and the spear, now turn to John 20:19-31. Without a true resurrection, what kind of Jesus would you expect? a pale Jesus, sweaty, with blood splattered over his body and hair, in intense back pain, with blood pouring out from the side wound, and limping. Imagine under such conditions Him turning to them and saying “I told you I would rise again.” Alive yes, but raised no! They would have said, ‘hey, get him a chair, clean the wounds, get some water, get a doctor, and pray for healing, thank God He is not dead.’ You would not have John looking forward to a body like that.

**7. Consider the testimony of Sir Lionel Luckhoo (1914-1997).** He holds the Guinness world record as most successful defense attorney with 245 victories as an attorney. Considered the greatest lawyer in the world. He had an amazing eye for detail. He was a skeptic and was challenged to examine Jesus and the resurrection. He spent several years and said **“I say unequivocally that the evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ is so overwhelming that it compels acceptance by proof which leaves absolutely no room for doubt.”**

## **8. Twelve historical facts about Jesus that critical unbelieving scholars accept.**

- 1) Jesus died by crucifixion.
- 2) He was buried.
- 3) His death caused disciples to despair, lose hope, believing His life had ended.
- 4) The tomb in which Jesus was buried was discovered to be empty a few days later
- 5) The disciples had experiences which they believed were literal appearances of the risen Jesus.
- 6) They were transformed from doubters to bold proclaimers.

- 7) This message was the center of preaching in the early church.
- 8) This message was especially proclaimed in the Jerusalem, where he died and was buried shortly before.
- 9) As a result of this preaching, the Church was born and it grew.
- 10) Sunday became the primary day of worship.
- 11) James, who had been a skeptic, was converted to the faith when he also “believed” that he saw the resurrected Jesus.
- 12) A couple of years later, Paul was converted by an experience which he likewise believed to be the appearance of the risen Jesus.

## 9. History & the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. You can show:

- a) If the Bible is the Word of God, Jesus was raised from the dead.
- b) If the Bible is not the Word of God, but a decent and reliable history book, then Jesus was raised from the dead.
- c) If the Bible is as the critics claim (i.e. that virtually nothing in it is reliable), then we still have enough historical evidence to show that Jesus was raised from the dead.
- d) This is a “heads” we win, and “tails” they lose argument.



- e) You can take just the data that the critics allow and have enough to show that Jesus was raised from the dead.
- f) Just because someone does not accept the Bible, does not mean we cannot confront them with the evidence.
- g) Just because someone does not accept the Bible does not mean that they are absolved of responsibility before God.

# **The Historical Timeline that Defeats the Critics and Skeptics**

- 1. We believe in the traditional authorship of the gospels and of Paul.**
- 2. However, the critics will only allow Paul, but with Paul we can build a case for Christianity. We can take a few facts and build our data around them.**
- 3. Body of Pauline literature that is acknowledged by the critics (who do not even accept that Jesus lived) include 1 Cor. and Galatians (total 8 letters).**

## 4. Critical scholars dating of New Testament books

Ground zero: the Cross 30 A.D.

- ✓ 1 Corinthians . A.D. 55
  
- ✓ Mark, 65-70 = +35
- ✓ Matthew, 80 = + 50
- ✓ Luke, 85 = + 55
- ✓ John, 95 = + 65.
  
- ✓ These are far superior to all ancient historical documents. However, we can do much better by comparing 1 Cor. with Galatians.

## 5. The Basic Timeline:

- ✓ 30, Cross & preaching of gospel by Peter, James, John
- ✓ 32, Paul meets the LJC on the road to Damascus
- ✓ 35, Paul goes to Jerusalem to meet Peter and James to check out the gospel, and they tell him “yes,” cf. Gal 1-2.
- ✓ 51, Paul preaches Gospel to Corinthians,
- ✓ 55, Paul writes 1 Cor and records fact he meet with other apostles.
- ✓ By comparing 1 Cor 15 with Galatians 1-2 the theory that Paul was the originator of Christianity is smashed. Further, we have early attestation to gospels.

## 6. Faith founded on historical facts, 1 Cor. 15 w/Gal 1-2.

- a) 1 Cor. 15: 3: “what I received” (παρέδωκα) = goes back to Galatians.
- b) Gal 1:18: he “received” eyewitness testimony of 1 Cor. 15 from Peter and James at 35 A.D. after 3 years in Arabia. “Acquainted” is **ιστορέω**.
- c) This testimony takes us back to A.D. 30. on the deity, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- d) Gal 2:1-6: they added nothing to Paul.
- e) Material in 1 Cor. 15 predates the Gospels.
- f) Critics accept both Galatians and 1 Cor.
- g) Far superior attestation than Alexander the Great or Tiberius.

# The Destruction of Death by the Resurrection of JC

## 1 Cor 15:26

1. Death as an enemy. Look at ravages of death all around us and throughout human history. Death destroys the creation of God. The pain of death from the wail of the widow, the moan of the orphan, the void from the loss of a friend, to the intense grief of the lost newlywed. Death takes no pity on the young and no mercy on the old. Death is not the way God originally designed things. It is not suppose to be this way.

2. Death is the enemy of all people—including God's people. It separates relationships. It stops interrupts work here.
3. Enemy is not an enemy that we will be able to avoid (except the rapture generation). Our end in our mortal body is inevitable.
4. Jesus Christ has accomplished a great victory over death. He has taken care of spiritual death and will take care of physical death.
5. How could we ever repay Him? What does He want?