

REGA



1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NASB)

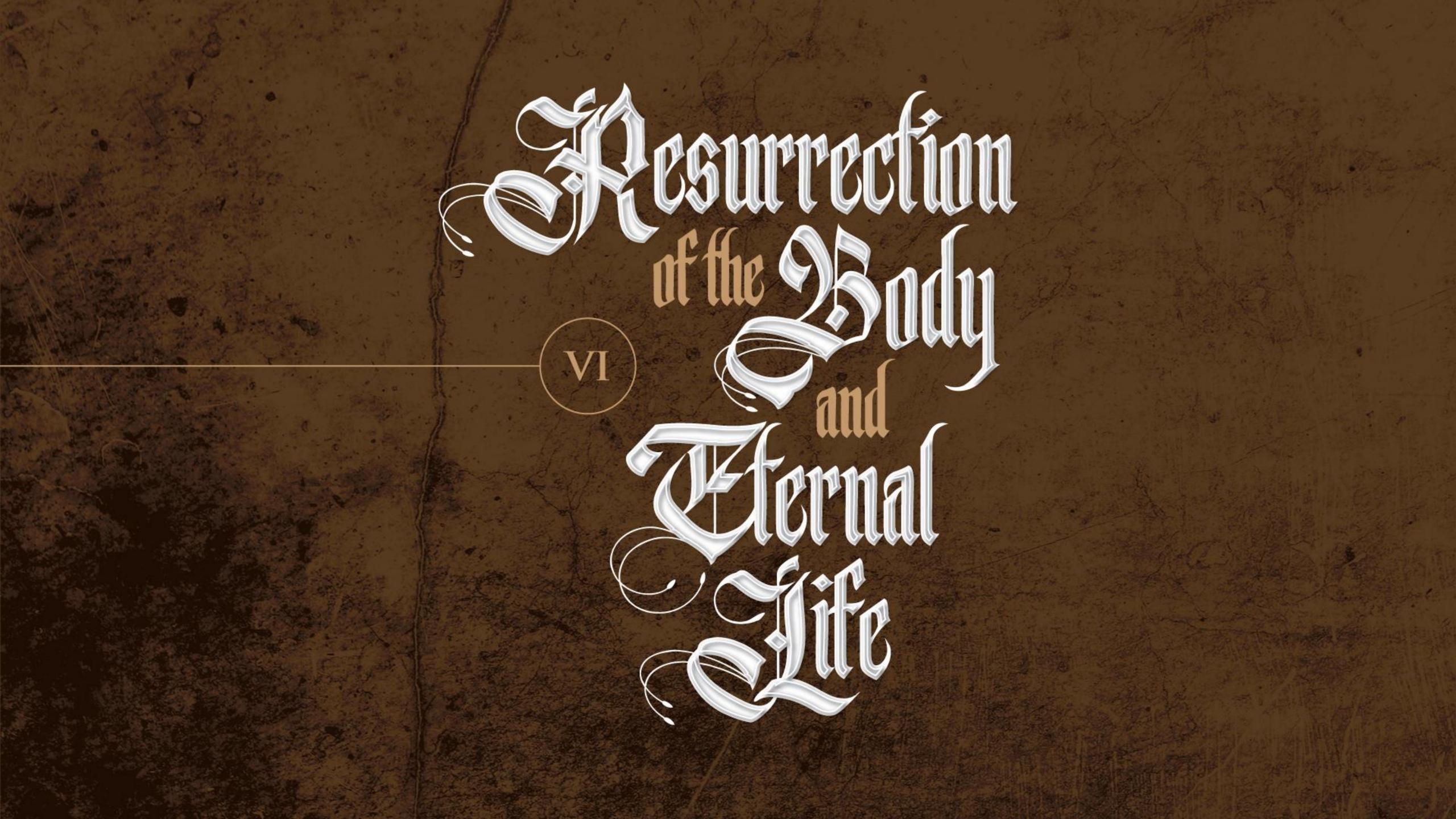
For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended to hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;

The Apostles Creed

He ascended to heaven and sits on the right hand of the Father Almighty, From whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy catholic church, the communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



Objectives

- You will discover how to define your faith.
- You will understand how to defend your faith.
- You will apply what your learnt to declare your faith.

Reality

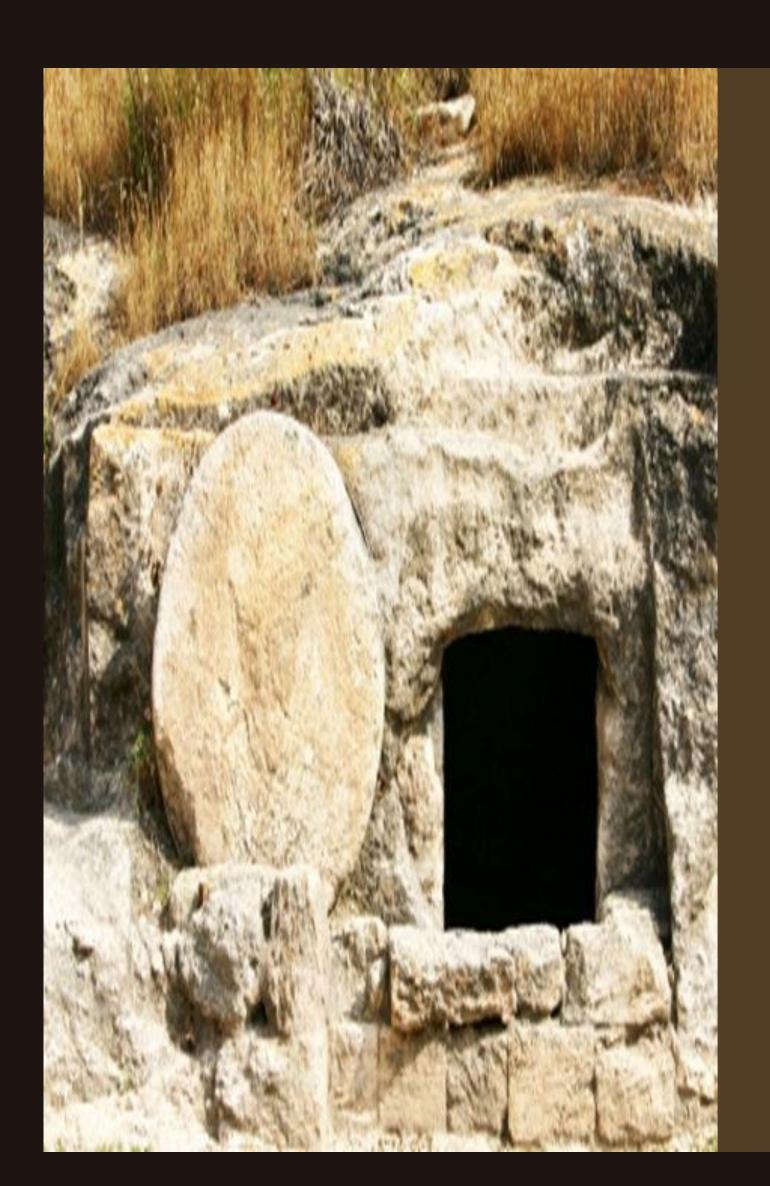
How does the world think about Jesus's resurrection?

1 Corinthians 15:12 (NKJV)

Now if Christ is preached that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

Reality 1:

Some say that Jesus's body was stolen.



THE STOLEN BODY THEORY

- This theory says that Jesus' followers stole the body from the tomb.
- This is the only theory that dates from when the time the events took place.

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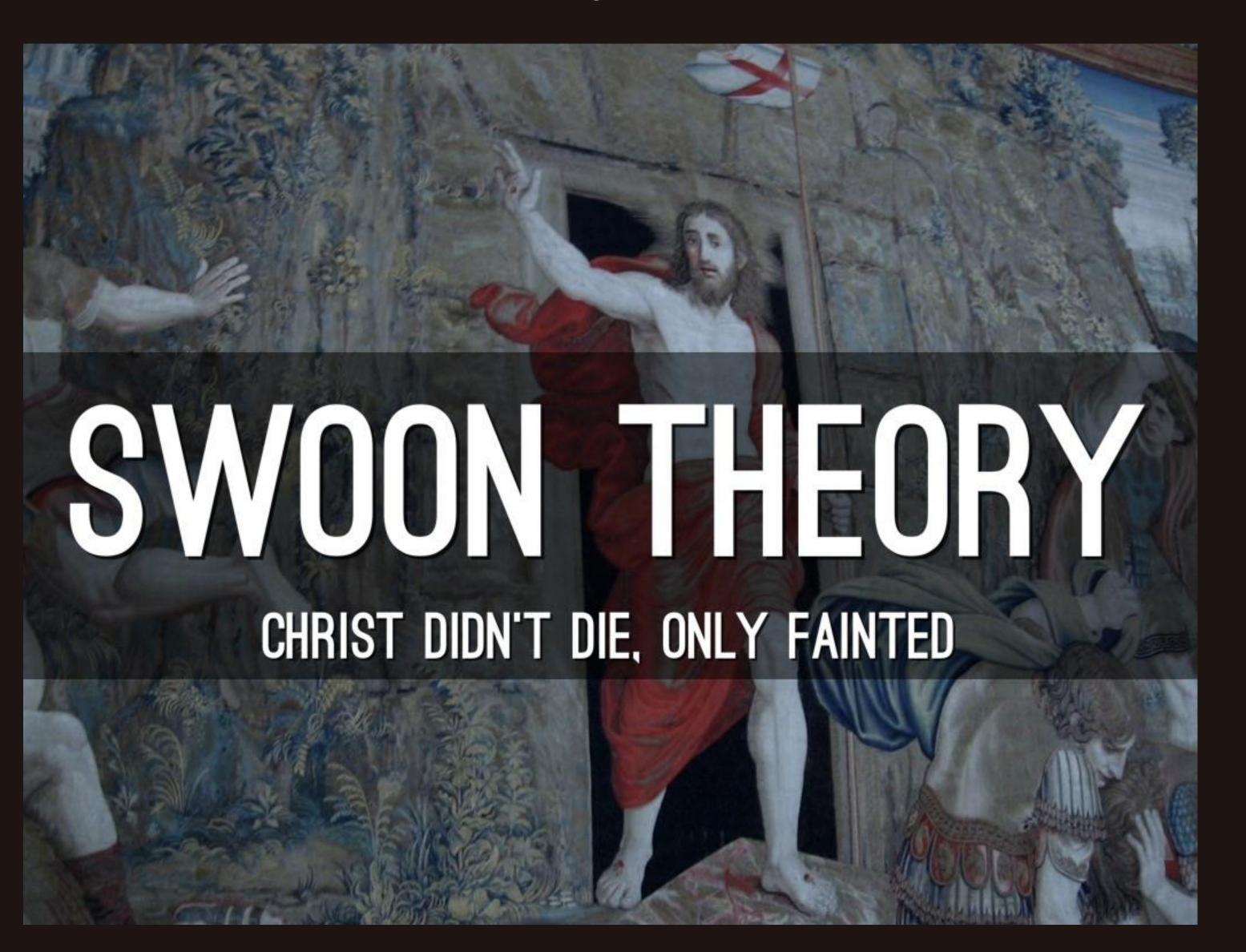
Our Defense:

Jesus tomb was guarded to prevent such event to happen.

(Matthew 27:62-66)

Reality 2:

Some say that Jesus didn't die but rather fainted.



Our Defense:

Jesus was stabbed in the side with a spear.

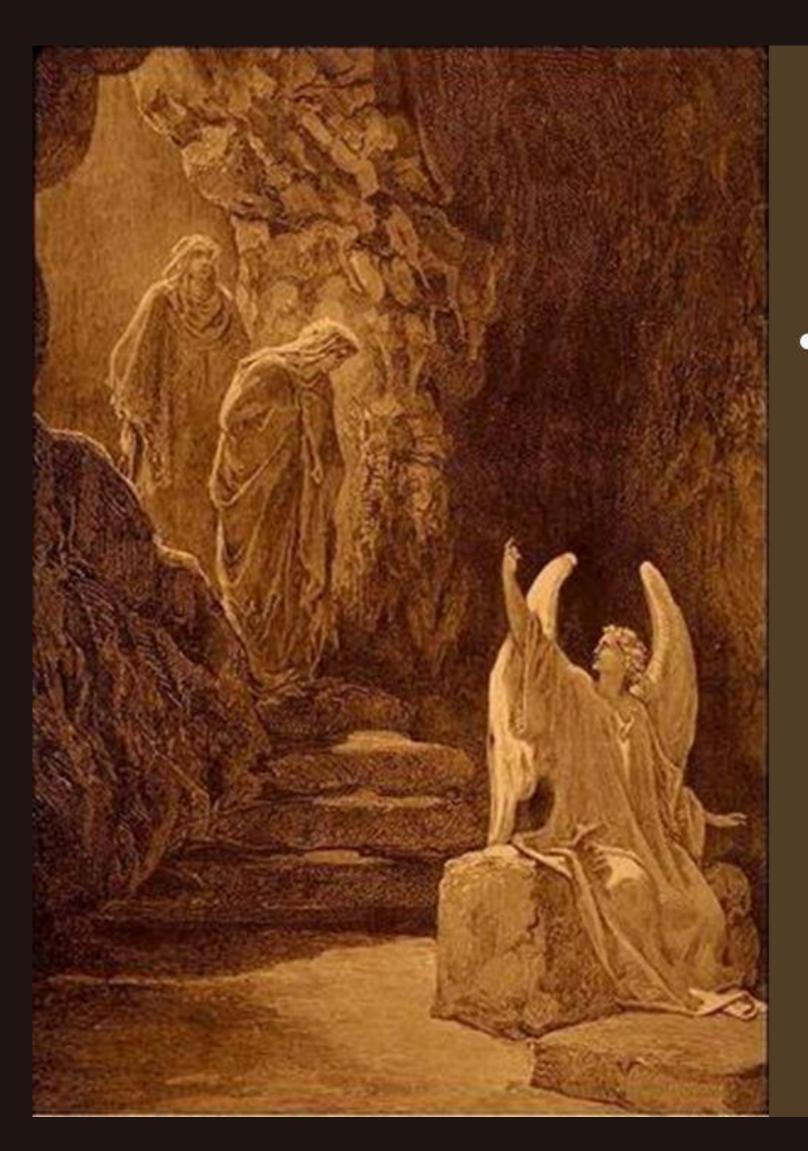
(John 19:34)

Jesus body was embalmed in preparation for burial.

(John 19:39-40)

Reality 3:

Some say that the disciples went to the wrong tomb



THE WRONG TOMB THEORY

 This theory states that the followers of Jesus discovered the tomb to be empty because they went to the wrong tomb.

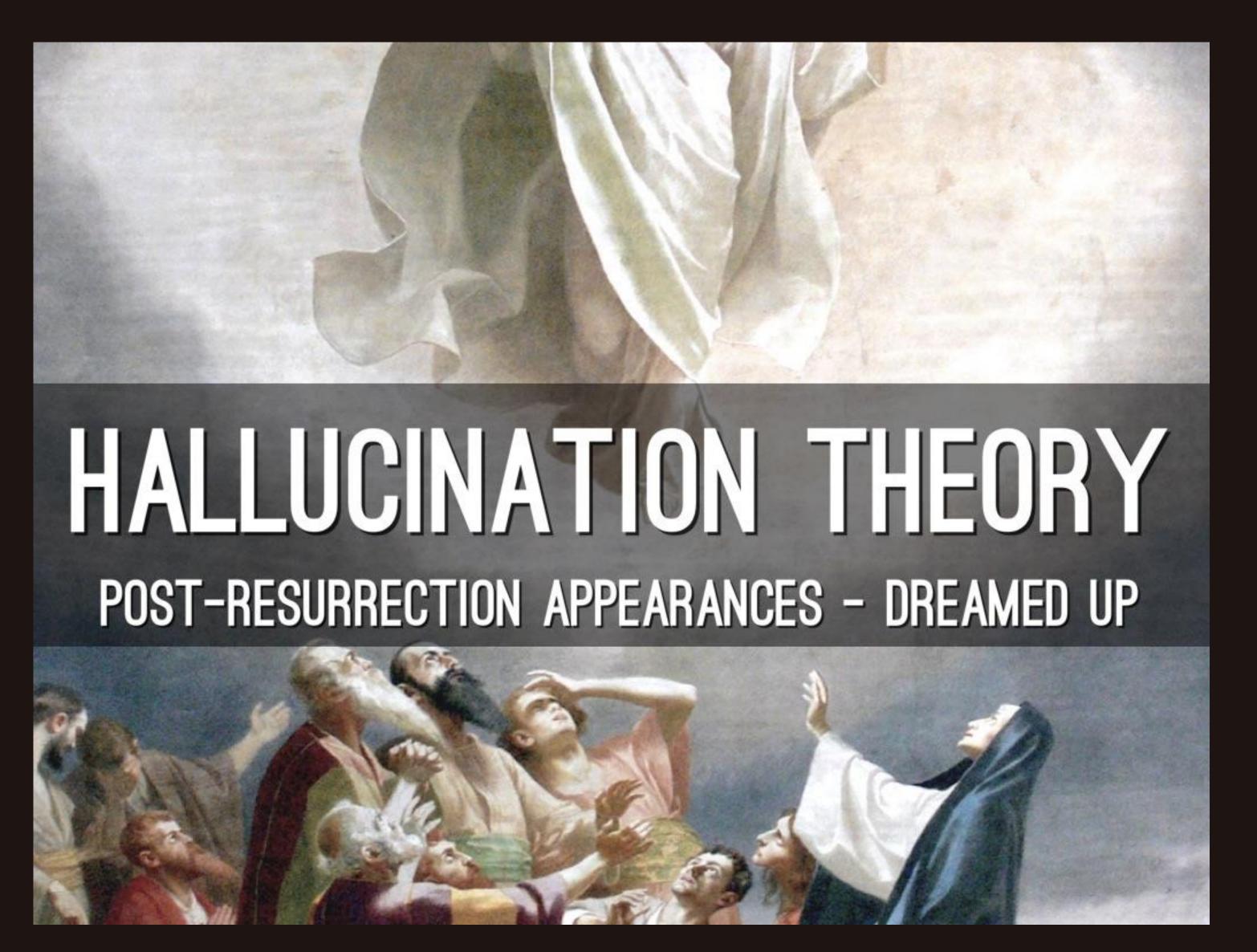
Our Defense:

Jesus's tomb was the tomb for Joseph of Arimathea which is one of Christ's disciples.

(John 19:38-42)

Reality 4:

Some say that the disciples were hallucinating.



Our Defense:

A lot of people testified that they saw Jesus Christ alive.

(1 Corinthians 15:5-8)

1 Corinthians 15:5-8 (NKJV)

5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve. 6 After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. 7 After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. 8 Then last of all He was seen by me also, as by one born out of due time.

Relevance

Why is Jesus's resurrection important?

1 Corinthians 15:13-14 (NKJV)

13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen.

14 And if Christ is not risen, then <u>our preaching is empty</u> and your <u>faith is also empty</u>.

Point 1: Our faith is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:15 (NKJV)

15 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.

Point 2: We are true witnesses of God.

1 Corinthians 15:16-19 (NKJV)

16 For if the dead do not rise, then Christ is not risen. 17
And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins! 18 Then also those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable.

Point 3: We have a living hope in Jesus Christ.

Rewards

What are the rewards of believing in Jesus Christ?

Romans 5:24-25 (ESV)

24 but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, 25 who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

Reward 1: Forgiveness of sins



1 Corinthians 5:42-44 (NKJV)

42 So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. 43 It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

Reward 2: A resurrected body



Verses	Current Body	Resurrected Body
v.42	Sown in corruption	Raised in incorruption
v.43	Sown in dishonor Sown in weakness	Raised in glory Raised in power
v.44	Sown a natural body	Raised a spiritual body
v.48	Made from dust	Made from heaven
v.49	Image of the man of dust	Image of the heavenly man
v.53	Mortal	Immortal



What then is the life cycle of a Christian's body?

Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3
Natural Body (1 Corinthians 15:44)	Death (1 Corinthian 15:36) (Hebrews 9:27)	Resurrected Body (1 Corinthian 15:42)

Why is this needed? Why is it important?

1 Corinthian 15:50

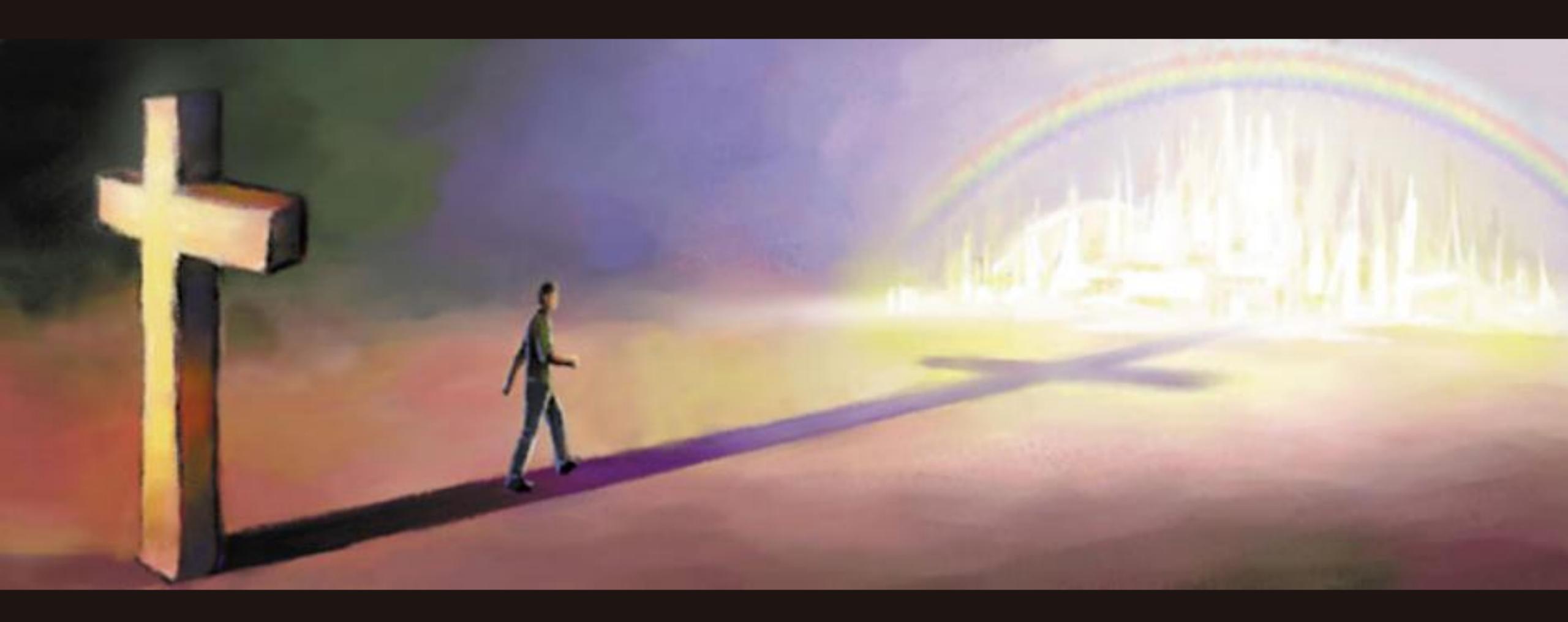
Now this I say, brethren, that <u>flesh and blood cannot inherit</u> the kingdom of God; nor does corruption inherit incorruption.



John 5:24 (NKJV)

24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Reward 3: Eternal Life



1 Corinthians 5:52-57 (NKJV)

52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."

1 Corinthians 5:52-57(ESV)

55 "O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?"

56 The sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Challenge

1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)

Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.