



Credible Catholic

# 7E SEVEN ESSENTIALS

## PRESENTATION 4

## TEACHER'S GUIDE

PROOF OF JESUS RESURRECTION AND DIVINITY

*12+ Through Adult Version*



From content by:

**Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S. J., Ph.D.**

Adapted by: Claude R. LeBlanc, M.A.

# Welcome to CREDIBLE CATHOLIC!

**WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?** It is unbelief and skepticism. In our culture, derision of religion, God, the soul, Jesus, and the prospect of finding spiritual meaning in suffering, are not only tolerated but preached and sometimes even celebrated. Many are already infected by the faulty messages which are delivered in four popular, but inaccurate, secular myths. These myths, in one form or another, are as follows:

- Myth 1:** Science and faith are incompatible, and since science is true, it has replaced religion.
- Myth 2:** Human beings are like every other animal—merely a complex of atoms and molecules. We have no soul, no eternal destiny, and no transcendent nature. When we die, we die.
- Myth 3:** There is no explanation for why an all-loving God would allow suffering. Therefore, suffering is fundamentally negative and a loving God probably does not exist.
- Myth 4:** There is no evidence for Jesus as an historical figure, and therefore his resurrection or divinity. If Jesus did exist, he was just an interesting prophet, but not a Savior or the Son of God.

The *2016 Pew Research Center’s Religious Landscape Study* indicates that over 40% of millennials have abandoned their faith to unbelief because these four challenges have not been adequately addressed. Unless we specifically and effectively address these challenges to faith, the percentage will continue to grow. *What can be done?*

**OUR SOLUTION:** *Credible Catholic*, a Magis Center curriculum correlated to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, was specifically created to address these challenging myths.

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# **CREDIBLE CATHOLIC 7 ESSENTIALS**

## **PRESENTATION 4 GUIDE**

### **PROOF OF JESUS' RESURRECTION AND DIVINITY** *12+ Through Adult Version*

From content by:

**Fr. Robert J. Spitzer, S. J., Ph.D.**

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**Magis Center**

13280 Chapman Ave.

Christ Cathedral Tower of Hope, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

Garden Grove, CA 92840

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## CREDIBLE CATHOLIC Presentation 4

### *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

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## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

**Content:** This presentation is derived from the *Credible Catholic Little Book (CCLB) 3* which can be found at [crediblecatholic.com](http://crediblecatholic.com). The presentations are interactive, with prayers, questions for discussion, videos, activities and assessments. When leading a discussion, it is important to let your students share without correction to establish trust on the part of your students. The content contains the Church's teachings on the topics, so you do not need to give "correct" answers to the questions.

**Handouts:** Copy the following pages as a handout. There are places where notes can be added by the students but the commentary should provide them with what they need.

**Videos and Audio Files:** These are introduced on the previous slides so that you are prepared for them. They automatically start when the next slide is opened.

**Time Required:** Each presentation was designed to be easily covered in 120 minutes. If you have less time, use your discretion in limiting discussion, omitting an activity (or activities), skipping a video (or videos), and assigning the assessment for homework (see the chart below for recommendations). If you find you have extra time, use it for further class discussion and/or to encourage your students to brainstorm how this information can be used to confront the challenges to faith they face.

Recommendations Based on Available Time						
	Minutes:	60	75	90	105	120
Presentation Text		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Discussion Questions		No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Videos		No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Activities		No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Assessment		No	No	No	No	Yes

**Using the Presentations:** All **Credible Catholic** presentations are free online and can be played on your smart device or computer from our website with no special apps by electing the **"PLAY"** button. You may also download them in PDF format by selecting the **"DOWNLOAD"** button. You may need [Adobe Acrobat Player](#), [Adobe Flash Player](#) and/or [QuickTime Player](#) (all free online) for the embedded videos and audio files to play the presentations on your computer.

**Student and Presenter Surveys** are provided at the end of the presentation guide. We would appreciate it if you would administer and send them to us, either to the address at the front of this guide, or by scanning and emailing them to [teach@magiscenter.com](mailto:teach@magiscenter.com). We are offering a 25% discount on any one of the products for sale on either of our websites ([magiscenter.com](http://magiscenter.com)/[crediblecatholic.com](http://crediblecatholic.com)) for each complete set of class surveys you submit.

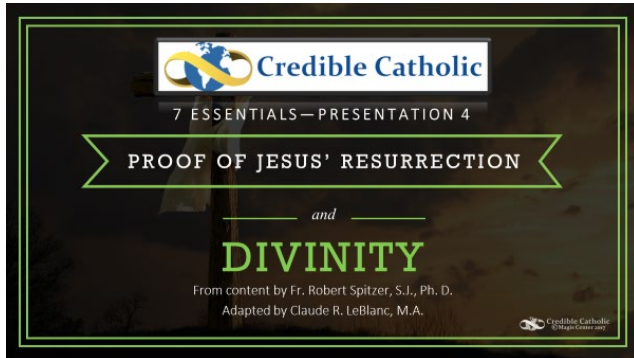
**Need Help?** If you have questions, contact us at [teach@magiscenter.com](mailto:teach@magiscenter.com) and we will get back to you promptly.



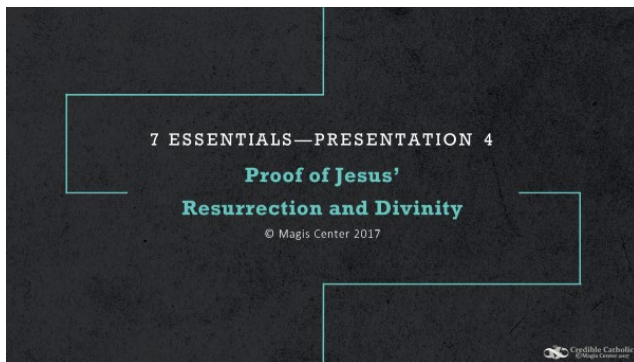
## CC 7E Presentation 4: *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

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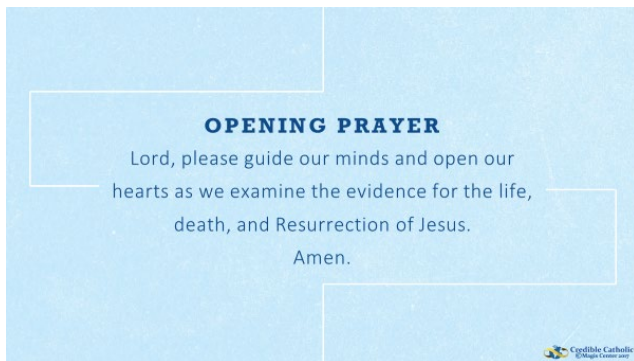
### PRESENTATION NOTES



SLIDE 1—TITLE SLIDE



SLIDE 2—COPYRIGHT SLIDE



SLIDE 3—OPENING PRAYER

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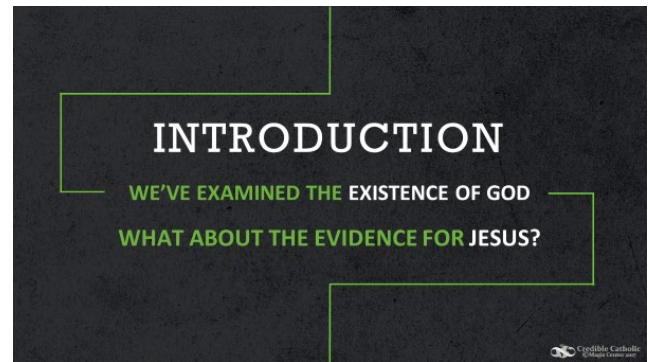
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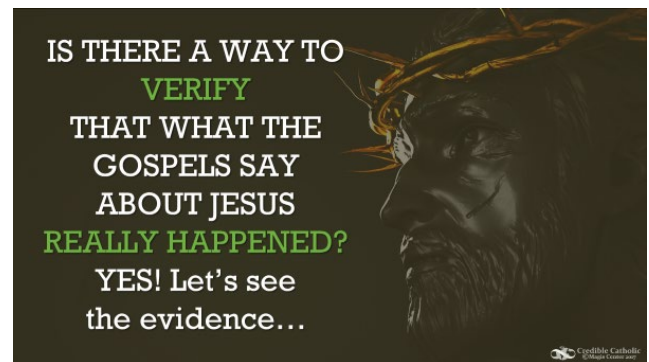
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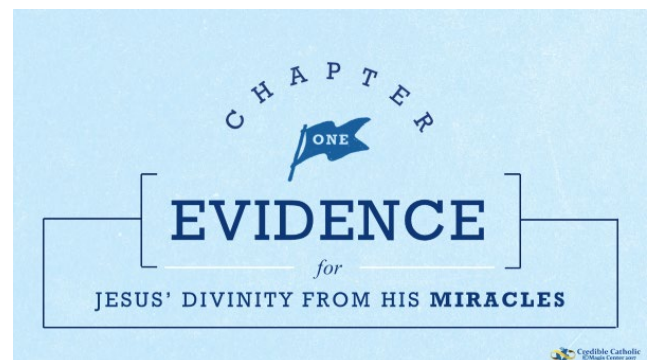
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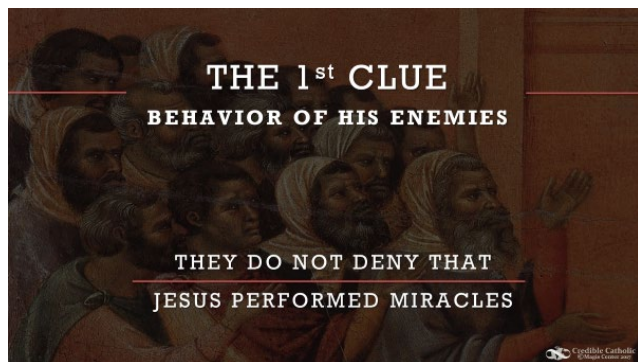
**SLIDE 4:** So far, we've seen scientific evidence and philosophical proofs for the existence of God, of our souls and of the afterlife. But, *what about the evidence for Jesus? Was He a real person, did He rise from the dead, and is He God? Is there actual evidence that could prove that these things about Jesus were true?*



**SLIDE 5:** Of course, most of our information about Jesus comes from the Gospels. So, the question is, *is there a way to verify that what the Gospels say about Jesus really happened?* The short answer is yes! There are, in fact, many ways. Let's take a look at a few of them.



**SLIDE 6—CHAPTER 1—EVIDENCE FOR JESUS' DIVINITY FROM HIS MIRACLES:** The Gospels are full of stories about Jesus' miracles. These accounts contain many clues about His divinity; that is, whether Jesus was really God.



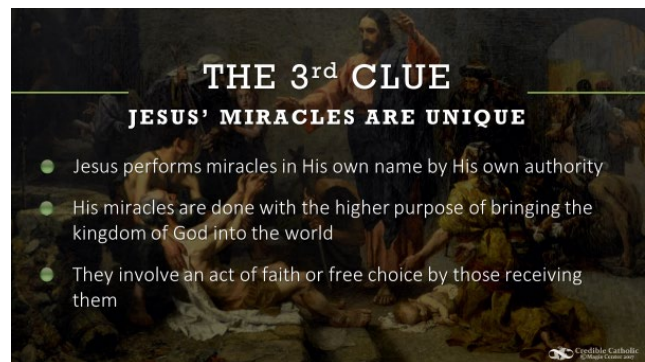
**SLIDE 7:** The first clue comes from the reported behavior of His enemies. In their efforts to discredit Jesus, they never deny that Jesus performed miracles. Instead, they accused Him of performing the miracles by demonic power.



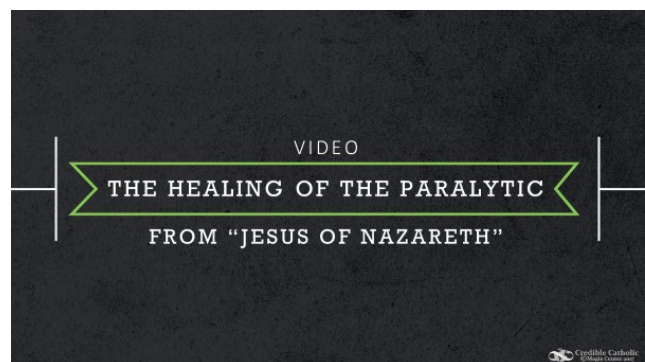
**SLIDE 8:** The 2<sup>nd</sup> clue is that the Gospel accounts include specific verifiable details. Jesus' miracles contain specific references to persons and places that could be verified by people living at that time. The Gospels include 15 unique healings and 7 accounts of exorcisms by Jesus, and 3 stories of His raising a person from the dead, which could all be verified.



**SLIDE 9:** Take the last group for instance. The three people Jesus raised from the dead are Lazarus, the daughter of Jairus, and the son of the widow of Nain. Each of these stories identify by name the person and/or location involved in the miracle.



**SLIDE 10:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> clue from Jesus' miracles gives us more evidence that He was who He said He was, because His miracles are unique in several ways. Unlike the Old Testament prophets, who always invoked God's power when performing a miracle, Jesus does them in His own name, by His own authority. Unlike the wonder-workers and magicians of the ancient world who focused on giving a performance that would bring personal glory, Jesus' miracles are done with the higher purpose of bringing the Kingdom of God into the world. They are not done to show-off His glory. Jesus' miracles always free someone from evil. He combines His miracles with teaching, illustrating lessons of forgiveness, thankfulness, and so on; and his miracles often involve an act of the faith or free choice from the person receiving or requesting the miracle.



**SLIDE 11:** Here's an example.

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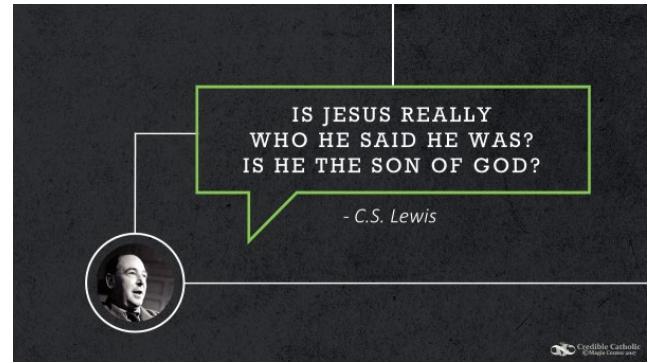


**SLIDE 12—VIDEO 4-1:** The Healing of the Paralytic scene from *Jesus of Nazareth*.

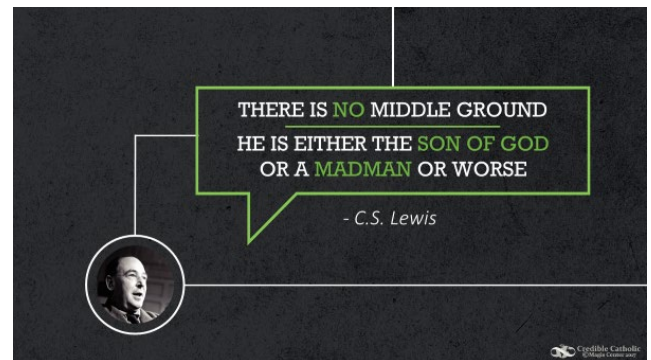


**SLIDE 13:** A 4<sup>th</sup> clue about Jesus' miracles is the way the Gospels report them. Most ancient stories that describe miracles would build them up to sound impressive. They'd fill their tales with drama, wonder, spectacle and exaggeration. But, the Gospels report Jesus' miracles factually, without exaggeration. They include unflattering details like the doubt of the Apostles and the insults aimed at Jesus. It's obvious the Gospel writers believed what they were reporting. They didn't need to win people over by convincing them with anything other than the facts. These four clues, taken together, give us strong evidence that Jesus is divine.

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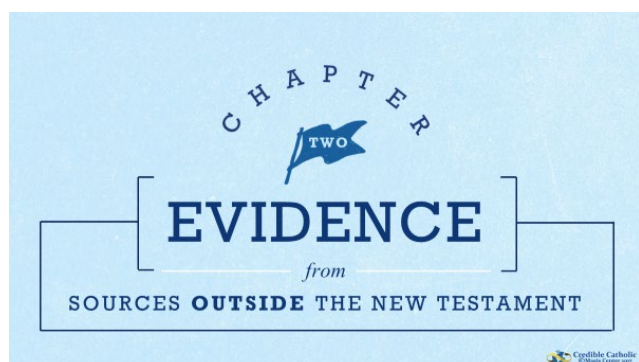


**SLIDE 14:** With all the evidence for Jesus' divinity from His miracles, we must ask, "Is Jesus really who He said He was; is He the Son of God?" As C. S. Lewis puts in his book, *Mere Christianity*: "You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse..."



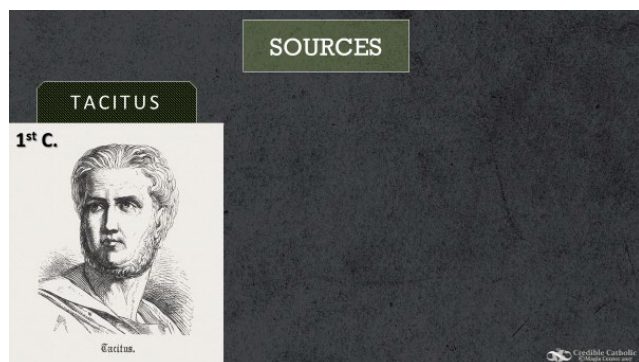
**SLIDE 15:** "...You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let's not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being (just) a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to."

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### SLIDE 16—CHAPTER 2—EVIDENCE FROM SOURCES OUTSIDE OF THE NEW TESTAMENT:

Of course, since the New Testament was written by His followers, *isn't there a chance it is biased and unreliable?* This is why the next type of evidence is important. There are also sources from *outside* of the New Testament that verify Jesus was a real person who lived in Israel in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD, and these sources tell us what He did. There are, in fact, three sources from that time, other than the Bible, that mention Jesus; one is Roman, and two are Jewish.



**SLIDE 17:** To start, we have the 1<sup>st</sup> century Roman historian named Tacitus. Tacitus mentions that Jesus was executed by crucifixion at the hands of Pontius Pilate during the reign of Emperor Tiberius.

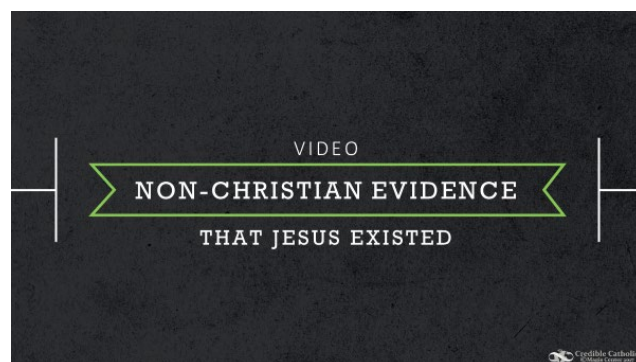


**SLIDE 18:** Our next source is the Jewish historian Josephus. Around 93 AD, Josephus *also* cites Jesus'

crucifixion and refers to Jesus as a teacher and a wonder-worker; the common term for a miracle-worker.



**SLIDE 19:** Our third source is the Babylonian Talmud; a 2<sup>nd</sup> century collection of Jewish teachings. The Talmud contains several references to Jesus, including His crucifixion and His reputation for supernatural power.



**SLIDE 20:** Let's take a look at one of these sources. Here are the words of Josephus.



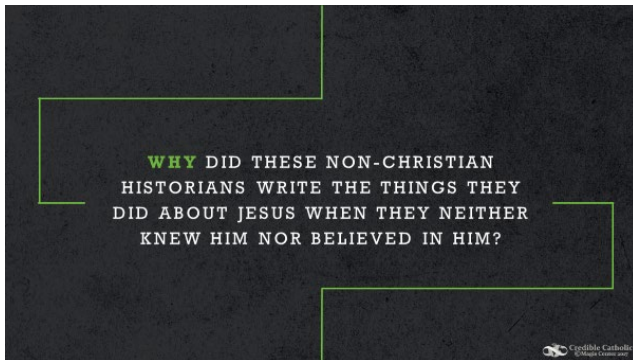
**SLIDE 21—VIDEO 4-2: Non-Christian Evidence that Jesus Existed.**

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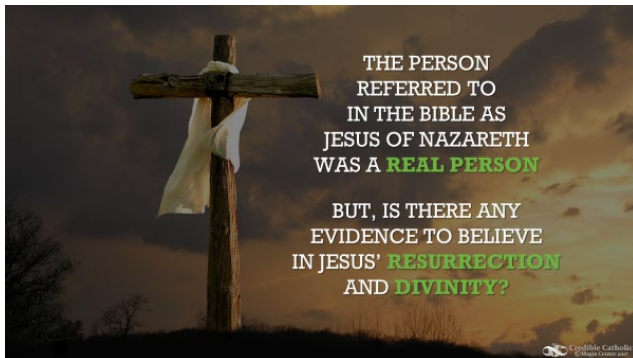




**SLIDE 22—ACTIVITY 1:** Imagine Being a Non-Christian Writing about Jesus

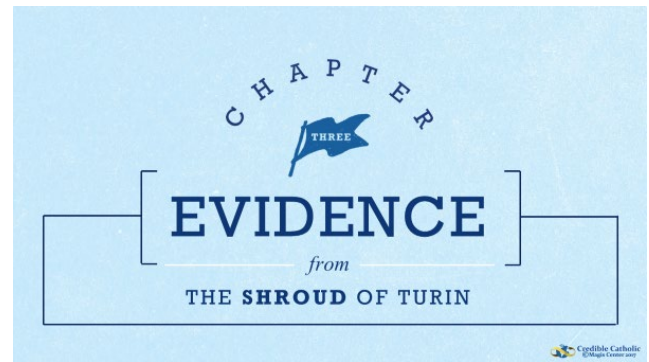


**SLIDE 23:** *Why did these non-Christian historians write the things they did about Jesus when they neither knew Him or believed in Him?* There's only one reasonable answer; the writers were reporting what witnesses had said.

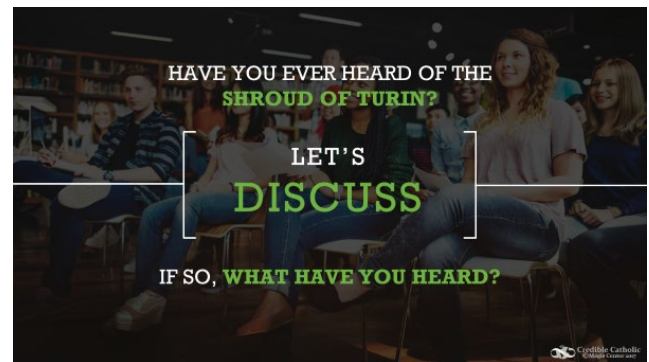


**SLIDE 24:** This means we can be certain that the person referred to in the Bible as Jesus of Nazareth was a real person. The next question has to be: *Is there any evidence to believe in Jesus' Resurrection and divinity?*

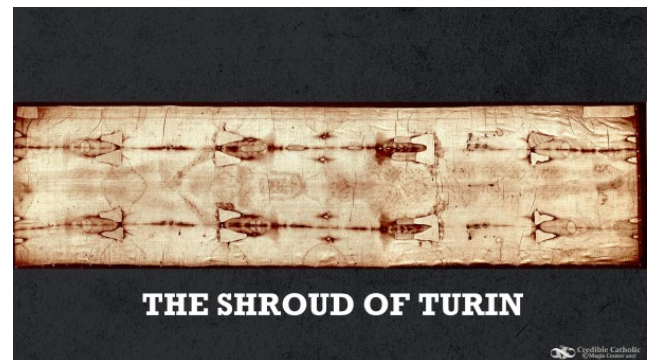
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**SLIDE 25—CHAPTER 3—EVIDENCE FROM THE SHROUD OF TURIN:** This brings us to the Shroud of Turin.

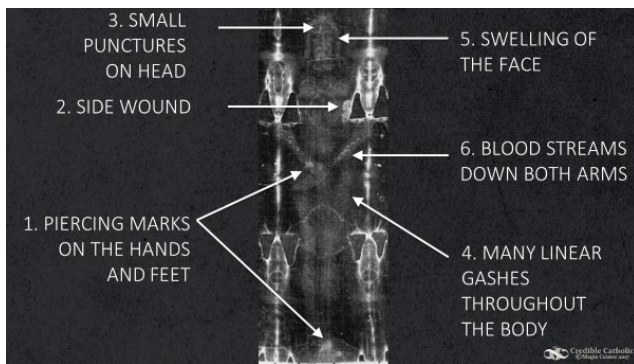


**SLIDE 26—LET'S DISCUSS**

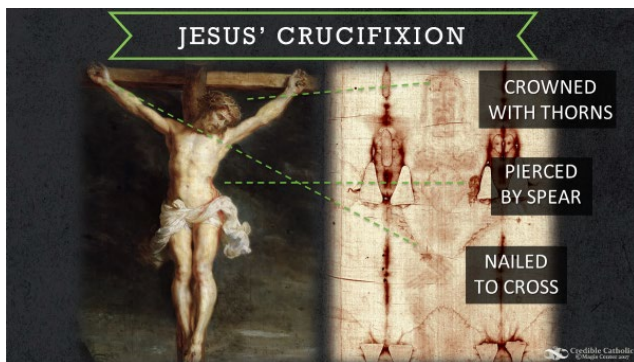


**SLIDE 27:** The Shroud of Turin is a 14' by 3-1/2' linen cloth with an anatomically perfect image of a wounded man. The man has a beard, moustache, and shoulder-length hair parted in the middle. He is muscular and about 5'7" to 6'2". The wounds and blood stains on the Shroud are identical to how Jesus' crucifixion is described in the Gospels.

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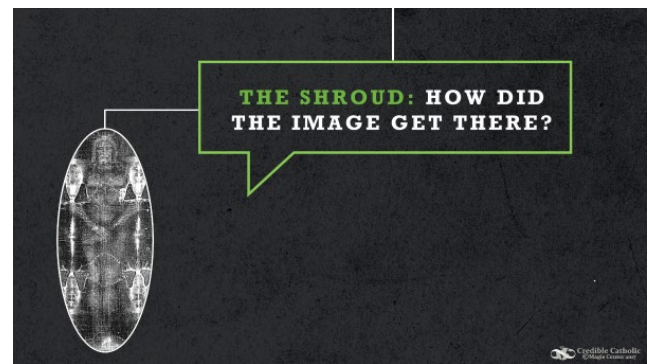


**SLIDE 28:** Here are some examples: 1) Both feet and the one visible wrist having large, round wounds from piercing; 2) An upward gouge penetrating the side into the rib cage; 3) Small punctures around the forehead and scalp; 4) Many linear gashes throughout the body; 5) Swelling of the face; and 6) Streams of blood down both arms.

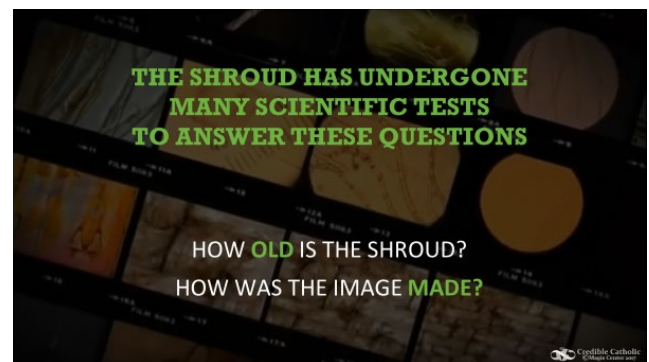


**SLIDE 29:** The Bible's report of Jesus' Crucifixion also matches the image on the Shroud in three very unique ways: First, because He was known as the "King of the Jews," He received a *crown of thorns*. Second, the Bible tells us that Jesus was *nailed* to His cross, while most victims were tied with rope. And third, the Bible reports that Jesus was wounded with a *spear*. This was done to speed up the time of Jesus' death so He could be removed from the cross and buried before Passover began. This was not the usual Roman practice; they typically tried to extend a person's suffering as long as they could. It's extremely unlikely that any other crucifixion contained all three of these things.

**Notes:**



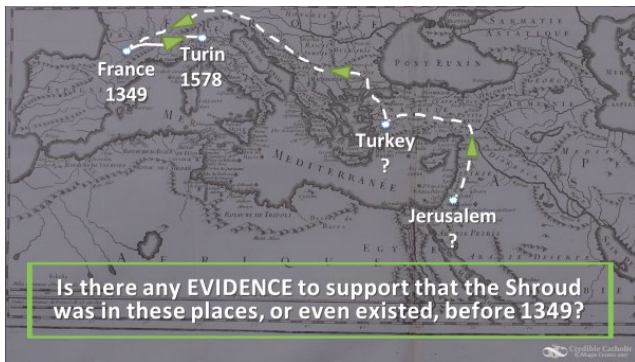
**SLIDE 30:** So, the Shroud appears to have an image of the crucified Christ, but *how did the image get there? Could it be a forgery, perhaps painted on, or is that the real image of Jesus caused by His Resurrection?*



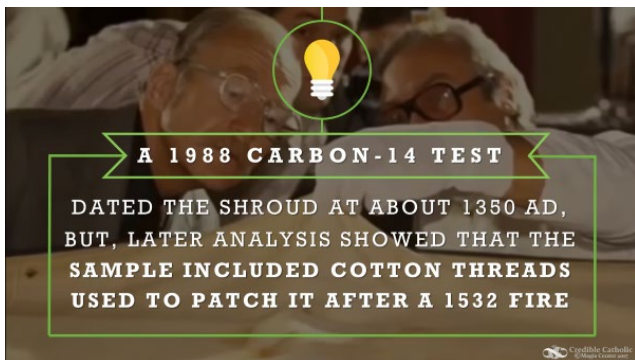
**SLIDE 31:** The Shroud has undergone many scientific tests to answer these questions. We need to examine several of these tests done on it to find out: first, how old the Shroud is; and then, how the image was made.

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page, providing a template for handwriting practice. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.





**SLIDE 32:** The Shroud has been in Turin, Italy since 1578, but its history goes back much further. We know it arrived in France in 1349, but before that we are less certain. There are some indications that the Shroud was in Jerusalem—the site of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection—and passed through Turkey before getting to France. But, *does the scientific evidence support that it was in these places, or even existed, before 1349?*



**SLIDE 33:** To answer this question, a Carbon-14 test was done on the Shroud in 1988. A single sample was divided and taken to three labs which each dated it to about 1350 AD, very close to our 1349 France date. That made the Shroud appear, to many, to be a Medieval forgery. However, later analysis revealed that the sample included cotton threads used to repair the Shroud, after a 1532 fire, that were dyed to match the color of the Shroud's original flax thread. So, the Carbon-14 test result is a combination of the age of both kinds of threads, not the age of Shroud.

**Notes:**



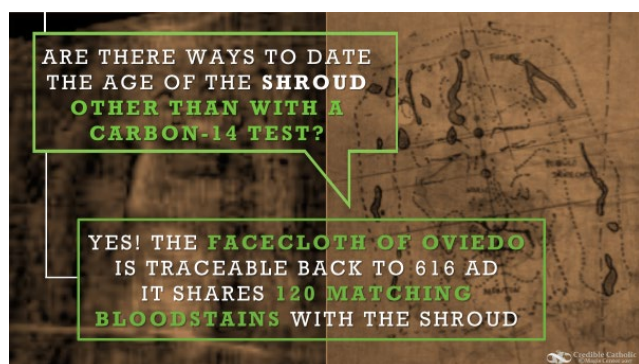
**SLIDE 34:** Watch this video about the Shroud's Carbon 14 test.



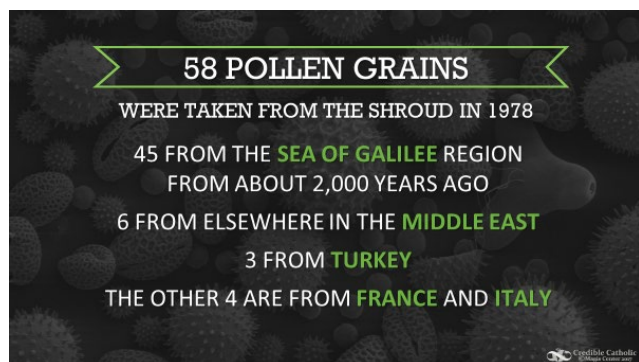
**SLIDE 35—VIDEO 4-3: The Shroud Carbon-14 Dating Error.**

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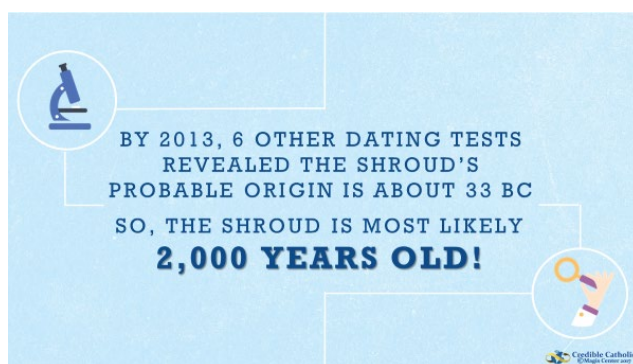




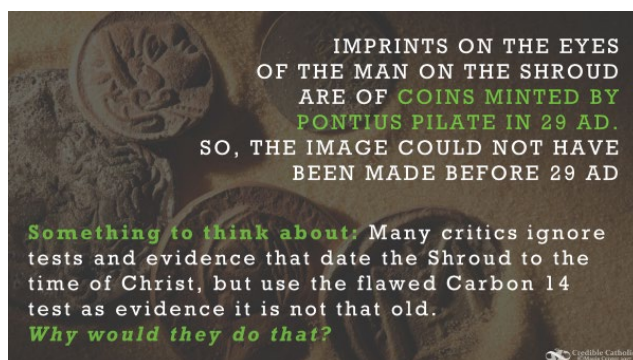
**SLIDE 36:** Are there ways we can date the age of the Shroud, other than with a Carbon-14 test? Yes, there are several. First, there's another cloth, known as the *Facecloth of Oviedo*, because it's now in Oviedo, Spain. This cloth is said to have touched the face and head of Jesus. If that is true, we should find similar bloodstains and pollen on both the Facecloth and the Shroud. In fact, they *do* contain many of the same pollens and their bloodstains match up in 120 places. So, both cloths must have touched the same face. Since the Facecloth of Oviedo has a traceable history from 616 AD, we know that both cloths are at least that old. But, *is there evidence to show the Shroud goes back even further; maybe even to the time of Christ?*



**SLIDE 37:** Well, *before* the Carbon-14 test, there had been another test done to determine the Shroud's age and where it had been. In 1978, 58 pollen grains were taken from the surface of the Shroud. 45 of these grains were identified as coming from the Sea of Galilee region from about 2,000 years ago. 6 more were from the Middle East, and 3 from Turkey. The remaining grains are from France and Italy, the locations of the Shroud we already knew about. So, based on this pollen test, the Shroud could be about 2,000 years old! But, to be certain that a test's find is accurate, scientists like to have more than one test reach similar results. In the case of the Shroud, there were six!



**SLIDE 38:** Since the Carbon-14 test, six other scientific dating tests have been performed on the Shroud. These results were reported in 2013. Each of the tests dated the Shroud well before 1350 AD. The approximate date for the origin of the Shroud, according to these tests, centers around 33 BC, very close to the time of Jesus. Taken together, the pollen samples and the dating tests, validate much of the Shroud's history before 1349. This makes it very unlikely that the Shroud of Turin is a medieval forgery.



**SLIDE 39:** Another indication of the age of the Shroud are imprints of coins on the eyes of the man. These have been identified as Roman coins, specially minted by Pontius Pilate in Judea in 29 AD. Biblical scholars date Jesus burial to 30 AD. Here's something else to think about: Many critics ignore tests and evidence that date the Shroud to the time of Christ, but use the flawed Carbon 14 test as evidence it is not that old. *Why would they do that?*

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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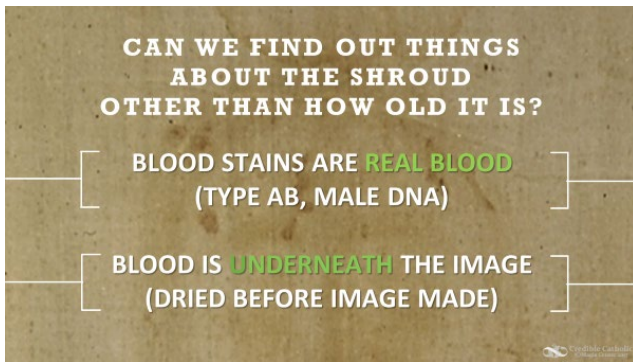
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**SLIDE 40:** *Can we find out things about the Shroud other than how old it is?* Yes! Tests on the Shroud have shown that the blood stains are real blood; type AB blood with male DNA. Interestingly, the blood appears to have dried on the cloth before the image was created. In fact, the blood is underneath the image. This is not what you would expect from a painted image, but, as we'll see, it is what we would expect if there was a resurrection.



**SLIDE 41:** Let's learn more.



**SLIDE 42—VIDEO 4-4:** Real Blood on the Shroud.

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

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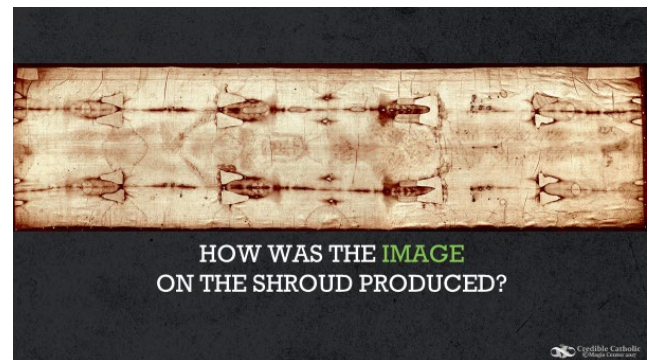
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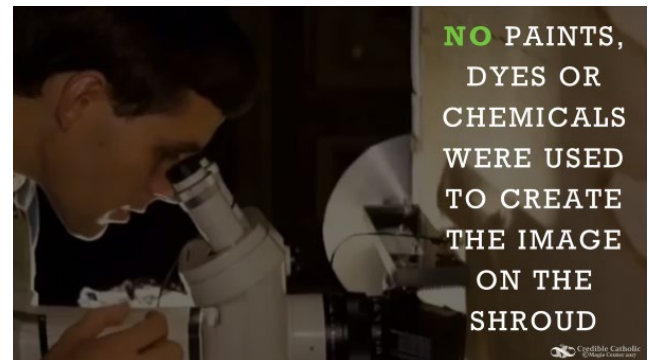
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**SLIDE 43:** We've looked at the evidence from the Facecloth of Oviedo, the pollen samples, the new dating methods, and the Roman coins. Based on all this, it's almost beyond question that the Shroud originated in the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD in Palestine about the time of Jesus' death.



**SLIDE 44:** But, *what about the image on the Shroud? Could it have been produced by some kind of paint or dye, as many claim, or only by a Resurrection?*



**SLIDE 45:** Tests on the image of the Shroud have revealed that it exists only on the uppermost surface of the cloth, on the tips of the fibers. This means that no paints, dyes, or other chemicals could have been used to create the image, because the image would have penetrated into the cloth. Based on recent cutting-edge tests, the most likely scientific explanation is that the image was caused by a quick flash extremely intense light (but not heat).

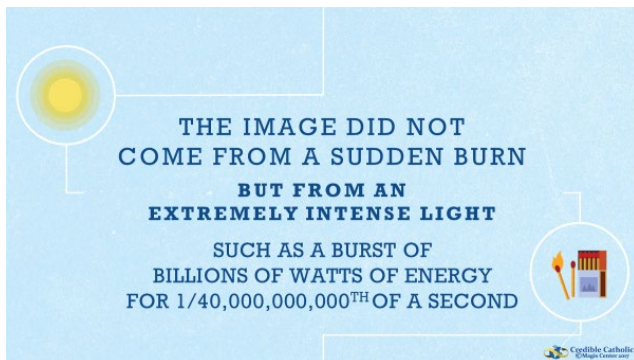




**SLIDE 46:** Watch this video about the Shroud's image.



**SLIDE 47—VIDEO 4-5:** Evidence the Image on the Shroud was not Painted.



**SLIDE 48:** The tests done on the Shroud's image have concluded that the image didn't come from a quick, sudden burn. It came from a discoloration of the linen cloth through an extremely intense light. The only way scientists could recreate the image on the Shroud would be by firing Vacuum Ultraviolet Radiation through an excimer laser focusing billions of watts of energy for one 40-billionth of a second. A burst of energy like that exceeds the capacity of all such lasers in the world today, so we can safely assume that a Medieval forger wouldn't have access to that kind of firepower!



**SLIDE 49:** This brings us to another remarkable fact about the image. The image on the Shroud is a perfect photographic negative. When film is used for photography, the image on the film is a negative; it's a reversal of the lights and darks and colors of the picture that's ultimately going to be developed from the film.



**SLIDE 50:** This video explains.



**SLIDE 51—VIDEO 4-6:** The Shroud is a Photographic Negative.

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**SLIDE 52:** There are several other things that these tests reveal about the Shroud's image. First, the image is present everywhere, regardless of whether or not the cloth touched the body. And, secondly, parts of the front image, such as the hand and the head, can be viewed in 3-D.

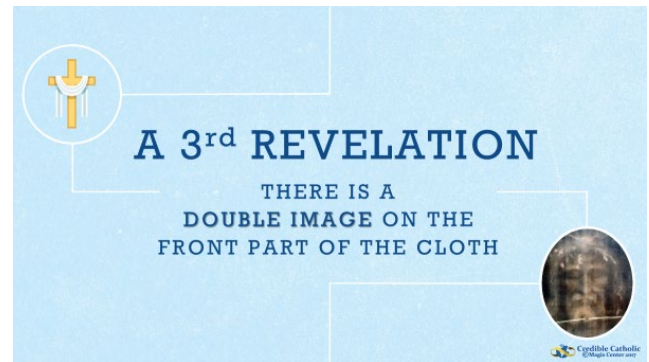


**SLIDE 53:** Here's another video.

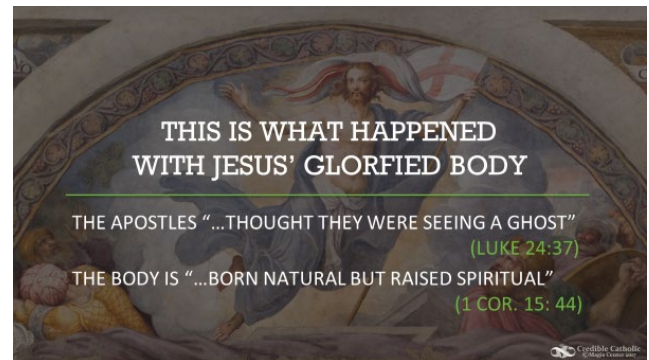


**SLIDE 54—VIDEO 4-7:** The Shroud's 3-D Image.

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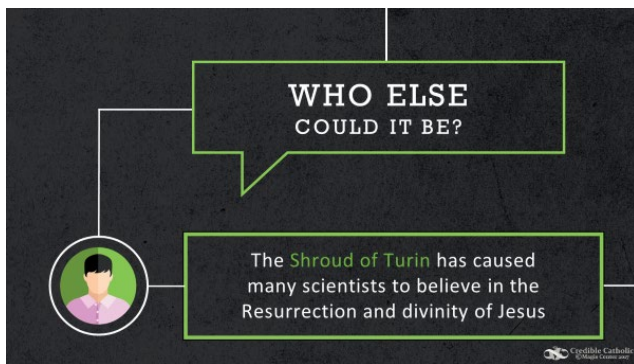


**SLIDE 55:** A third thing we have learned from the tests on the Shroud is that there is a double image on the front part of the cloth. There's a more intense image on the inner surface nearest the body, and a fainter image on the outside of the cloth; the surface away from the body. But, at the same time, as we mentioned before, there's no trace of the image on the inside of the cloth itself between the surfaces. This could only happen if the cloth somehow collapsed through the body, with the inner and outer surfaces both touching it. There is no known scientific explanation for solid objects, like cloths, passing through bodies. *How could this have happened unless the body became non-physical, or spiritual?*

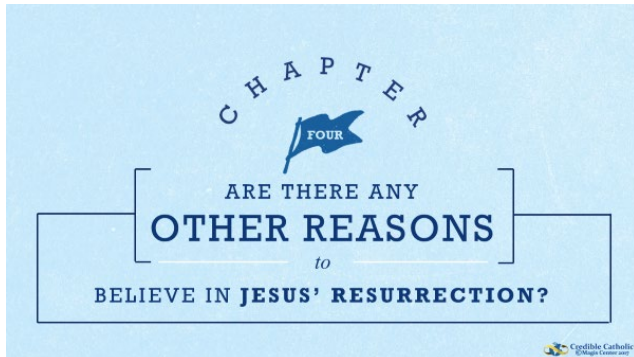


**SLIDE 56:** Physicists can find no other explanation, but the New Testament tells us this is exactly what happened with Jesus' glorified body. St. Luke (24:37) says the Apostles "...thought they were seeing a ghost" and St. Paul (1 Cor. 15:44) tells us the body is "...born natural but raised spiritual."

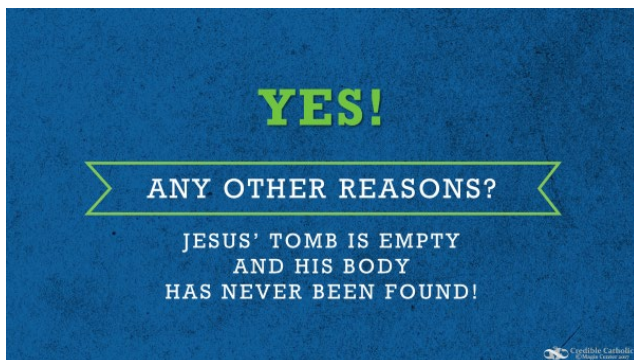
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**SLIDE 57:** When all the evidence for the date of the Shroud and its remarkable image are combined with the unique details of Jesus' crucifixion—the crowning with thorns, the nails, and the spearing of His right side—it is *very likely* that the Shroud is the burial cloth of Christ, and evidence of His Resurrection and divinity. *What else could it be? Who else could it be?*

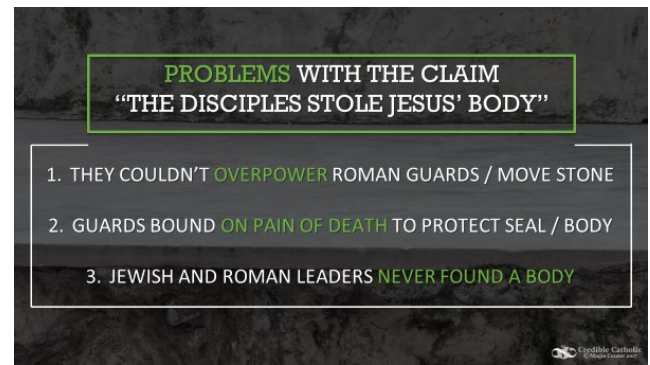


**SLIDE 58—CHAPTER FOUR—ARE THERE ANY OTHER REASONS TO BELIEVE IN JESUS' RESURRECTION?**  
*Other than the evidence from the Shroud, are there any other reasons to believe in Jesus' Resurrection?*

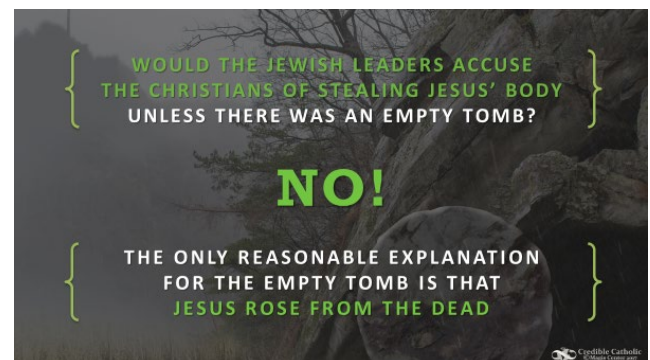


**SLIDE 59:** Yes! Jesus' tomb is empty and His body has never been found! The Gospel of Matthew (27:62-66) tells us that Jewish leaders wanted Roman soldiers to guard Jesus' tomb so that Christians wouldn't steal Jesus' body and claim He had risen.

But, the idea of Christians stealing His body doesn't make sense for three reasons.



**SLIDE 60:** First, the disciples couldn't overpower a group of armed Roman soldiers and move the stone. Second, the Roman soldiers wouldn't let the seal on the tomb be broken or let the body be stolen, because if they did, they would face death themselves. Third, neither the Jewish leaders nor the Romans ever found Jesus' body, even though we would expect that they searched tirelessly for it.



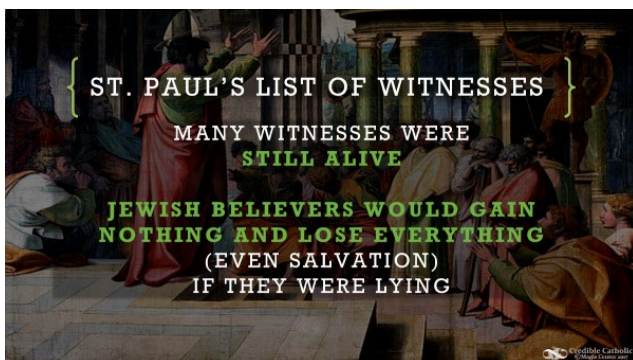
**SLIDE 61:** The only reasonable explanation for the empty tomb is that *Jesus rose from the dead*.

[illegible]





**SLIDE 62:** Besides the Shroud and the empty tomb, is there any other evidence of the Resurrection? Yes! St. Paul mentioned that Jesus appeared to many witnesses; he even gives a list: to Peter, to the Twelve, to more than 500 at one time, to James, to all the Apostles, and finally, to Paul himself.

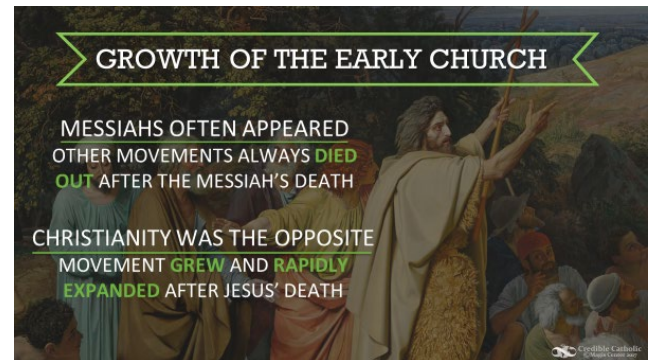


**SLIDE 63:** Most of these witnesses were *still alive* at the time that Paul was writing, so his claims could be verified. (see 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians chapter 15, verses 3-8) St. Paul goes on to say that anyone who admits to seeing the risen Christ had nothing to gain and everything to lose if he was lying. For a Jewish believer, which all the first Christians were, such a lie would have risked his place in the community and his salvation. *Why would anyone waste their life and eternity for a lie?*

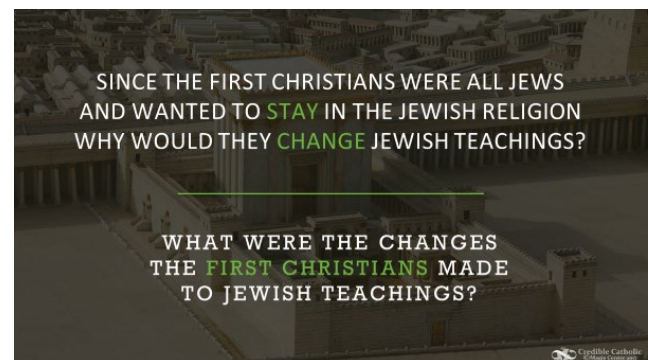


**SLIDE 64:** There's also evidence from the history of the early Church which suggests the Resurrection

really happened. The Anglican bishop, N. T. Wright, a leading New Testament scholar, points out that the early Church has two characteristics that are difficult to account for without the Resurrection. First, the Church continued to grow after Jesus' death, and second, it made particular changes to Jewish beliefs. Let's take a look at these one at a time.



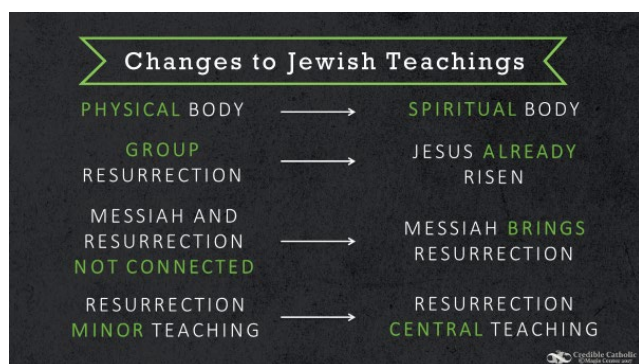
**SLIDE 65:** First, there were many who called themselves "messiahs" at the time of Christ. In every case, except Christ, after the "messiah" died, the followers would scatter and the movements would die. Christianity was the complete opposite. Its followers grew in number quickly. In fact, in a few generations it became the dominant religion of the Roman Empire, even while being persecuted. This extraordinary growth is easier to explain if, in fact, Christians really had seen the risen Lord and He gave them the Holy Spirit to work miracles in His name. (see Acts 10:44-47)



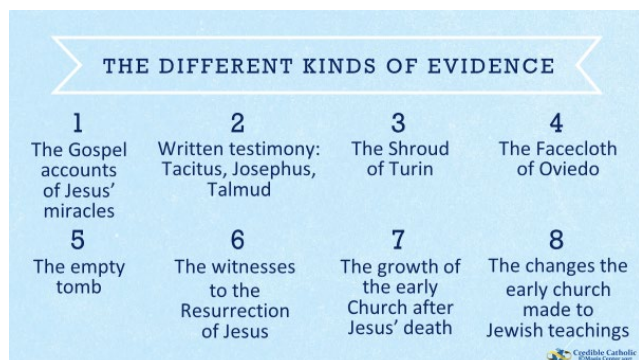
**SLIDE 66:** There's a second curious thing about the early Church, according to N.T. Wright. While the first Christians believed almost all of what the Jews taught, they changed a few teachings that ended up getting them kicked out of the Jewish religion.

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



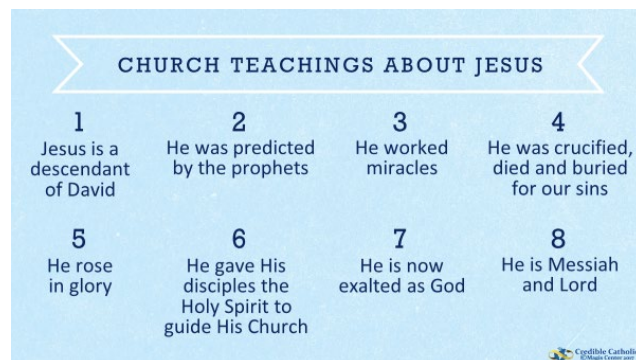


**SLIDE 67:** *What were the changes?* First, Jews who believed in resurrection thought they would return to a physical body, but Christians taught it will be a spiritual body, like Christ's; and like the experience of those having Near-Death Experiences as we saw in Presentation 2. Second, these Jews did not expect anyone to rise before a group resurrection at the "End of Days", but Christians taught that someone had already risen; Jesus. Third, Jews believed the Messiah had nothing to do with the resurrection, but Christians taught the Messiah came so we could be resurrected and be with Him. Finally, resurrection, for the Jews, was just a minor teaching, but Christians made it their most important teaching. N.T. Wright concludes that the only reason Christians would make these changes is that *"they had seen the Risen Christ in His spiritual, glorified body."*



**SLIDE 68:** We've seen many different kinds of evidence for Jesus' Resurrection and divinity: 1) The Gospel accounts of Jesus' miracles; 2) The written testimony of Tacitus, Josephus, and the Babylonian Talmud; 3) The Shroud of Turin; 4) The Facecloth of Oviedo; 5) The empty tomb; 6) The many witnesses who had nothing to gain and everything to lose by believing in the Resurrection of Jesus; 7) The growth of the early Church after Jesus' death; and 8) The changes the early Church made to Jewish teachings.

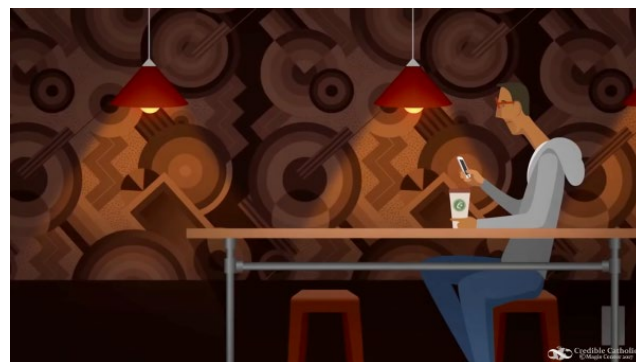
*How what does the evidence we've seen fit with what the Church teaches about Jesus Resurrection and divinity? Let's see.*



**SLIDE 69:** The Church proclaims eight main teachings about who Jesus is and what He did: 1) Jesus is a descendent of David; 2) He was predicted by the prophets; 3) He worked miracles; 4) He was crucified, died, and buried for our sins; 5) He rose in glory; 6) He gave His disciples the Holy Spirit to guide His Church; 7) He is now exalted as God; and so, 8) He is Messiah and Lord.



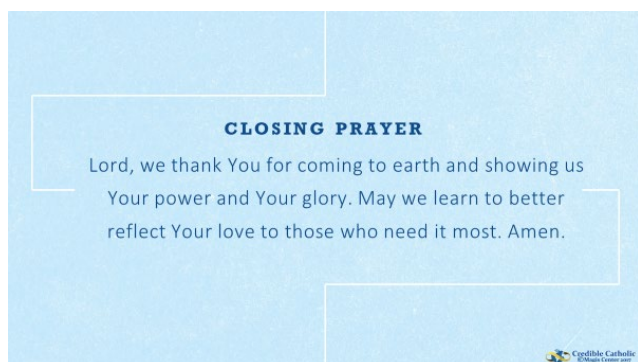
**SLIDE 70:** Finally, here's a summary of some of the evidence for Jesus' Resurrection and divinity.



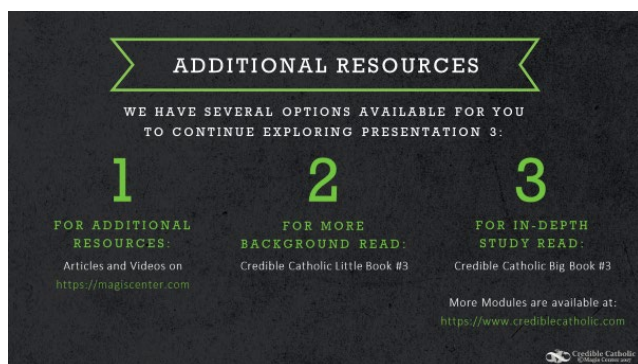
**SLIDE 71—VIDEO 4-8: Proof for the Resurrection of Jesus.**



**SLIDE 72—ACTIVITY 2: “Are You Convinced?”**



## SLIDE 73—CLOSING PRAYER



## SLIDE 74—ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



## SLIDE 75—CREDITS

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CREDIBLE CATHOLIC—7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 4 **ACTIVITIES**

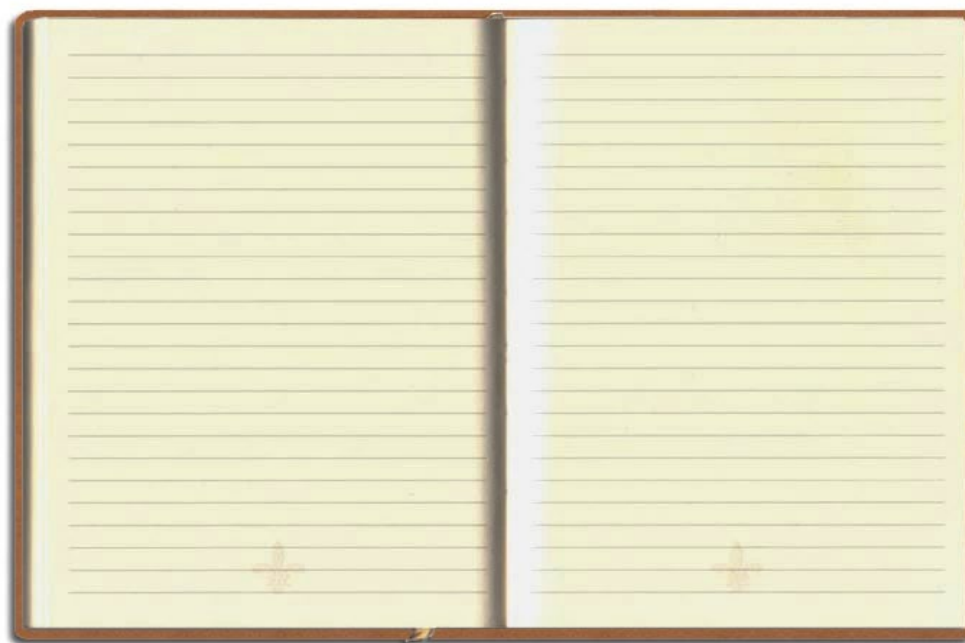
### *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

#### **ACTIVITY #1: Imagine Being a non-Christian**

**Writer:** Put yourself in the place of Tacitus or Josephus or the writers of the Babylonian Talmud.

**DISCUSS:** *Why would they write the things they did about Jesus even though they are not a Christian?*

**ACTIVITY:** *Choose any one of the authors and describe (in about 50 words) why they wrote what they did.*



**ACTIVITY #2: Are You Convinced?** JOURNAL, then **DISCUSS:** *Has this presentation convinced you that Jesus was a real person, performed miracles, resurrected from the dead, and is God? If so, why? If not, why not; and what would it take to convince you?*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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## CREDIBLE CATHOLIC-7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 4 **ASSESSMENT**

### *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

**Modified True or False:** *If a statement is true, mark it true. If false, make it true by striking through what is false and writing a correction on the lines provided.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Historical documentation for the life of Jesus come from the New Testament **alone**. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Jesus' miracles **always** had the purpose of bringing attention to himself and showing off his power. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. **C.S. Lewis** said that we only have three choices in determining who Jesus is: either a liar, a lunatic, or the Lord. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The Shroud of Turin **is definite proof** that Jesus resurrected and is divine. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The wounds on the image of the Shroud are **partially similar** to how Jesus' crucifixion is described in the Gospels. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Carbon 14 test has **proven** the Shroud is a 14<sup>th</sup> century fake. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Several tests on the Shroud have strongly suggested it is from the **time of Jesus**. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The Shroud is **not** the only physical evidence that exists of Jesus' crucifixion. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Anglican bishop N.T. Wright argues that it is difficult to account for the **growth of the early Church**, after Jesus' death, without the Resurrection. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. The Apostles **were** the only witnesses of Jesus' Resurrection. \_\_\_\_\_

## CREDIBLE CATHOLIC-7 ESSENTIALS Presentation 4

### ASSESSMENT ANSWER KEY

#### *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

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**Modified True or False:** *If a statement is true, mark it true. If false, make it true by striking through what is false and writing a correction on the lines provided.*

- FALSE** 1. Historical documentation for the life of Jesus come from the New Testament ~~alone.~~ and non-biblical sources.
- FALSE** 2. Jesus' miracles ~~always~~ had the purpose of bringing attention to himself and showing off his power. **never**
- TRUE** 3. C.S. Lewis said that we only have three choices in determining who Jesus is: either a liar, a lunatic, or the Lord.
- FALSE** 4. The Shroud of Turin ~~is definite proof~~ that Jesus resurrected and is divine. **strongly suggests**
- FALSE** 5. The wounds on the image of the Shroud are ~~partially similar~~ to how Jesus' crucifixion is described in the Gospels. **identical**
- FALSE** 6. The Carbon 14 test has ~~proven~~ the Shroud is a 14<sup>th</sup> century fake. **not proven**
- TRUE** 7. Several tests on the Shroud have strongly suggested it is from the time of Jesus.
- TRUE** 8. The Shroud is not the only physical evidence that exists of Jesus' crucifixion.
- TRUE** 9. Anglican bishop N.T. Wright argues that it is difficult to account for the growth of the early Church, after Jesus' death, without the Resurrection.
- FALSE** 10. The Apostles ~~were~~ the only witnesses of Jesus' Resurrection. **were not**





# Credible Catholic

## 7E Presentation 4: *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity* **STUDENT SURVEY** (12+ Through Adult Version)

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School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please choose the answer that best fits your responses:**

1. Did this presentation have **voice-over** (audio throughout)? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no
2. Before viewing this presentation, I had \_\_\_\_\_ of this topic.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ much knowledge                      \_\_\_\_\_ some knowledge                      \_\_\_\_\_ no knowledge
3. I understood this presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ very well                      \_\_\_\_\_ well                      \_\_\_\_\_ not that well
4. I found this presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ very interesting                      \_\_\_\_\_ interesting                      \_\_\_\_\_ not that interesting
5. (Select all that apply) I **liked** the:  
       \_\_\_\_\_ information                      \_\_\_\_\_ images                      \_\_\_\_\_ videos                      \_\_\_\_\_ discussions                      \_\_\_\_\_ activities

Comments:

6. (Select all that apply) I **disliked** the:  
       \_\_\_\_\_ information                      \_\_\_\_\_ images                      \_\_\_\_\_ videos                      \_\_\_\_\_ discussions                      \_\_\_\_\_ activities

Comments:

7. This presentation had a \_\_\_\_\_ **impact on my faith**.  
       \_\_\_\_\_ very positive                      \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat positive                      \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat negative

Comments:

8. This presentation would have been better if: \_\_\_\_\_  
       \_\_\_\_\_
9. Would you like to see a similar type of presentation on another topic? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ No  
       If so, which topic(s)? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Would you recommend this presentation to a friend? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes                      \_\_\_\_\_ No  
       Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Credible Catholic

## 7E Presentation 4: *Proof of Jesus' Resurrection and Divinity*

### **PRESENTER SURVEY** (12+ Through Adult Version)

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School Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please choose the answer that best fits your responses:

1. Did this presentation have **voice-over** (audio throughout)? \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ no
2. Before presenting this, I had \_\_\_\_\_ of this topic.  
\_\_\_\_\_ much knowledge \_\_\_\_\_ some knowledge \_\_\_\_\_ no knowledge
3. I found the Presentation Guide \_\_\_\_\_ in preparing for this presentation  
\_\_\_\_\_ very helpful \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat helpful \_\_\_\_\_ not helpful

Comments:

4. I found it \_\_\_\_\_ to present this presentation.  
\_\_\_\_\_ very easy \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat easy \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat difficult

Comments:

5. My students participated \_\_\_\_\_ in the **discussions**.  
\_\_\_\_\_ very well \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat well \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat poorly

Comments:

6. My students participated \_\_\_\_\_ in the **activities**.  
\_\_\_\_\_ very well \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat well \_\_\_\_\_ somewhat poorly

Comments:

7. This presentation would be better if: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Would you like to present on other topics in this style? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
If so, which topic(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Would you recommend this presentation to a colleague? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_

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## THE 7 ESSENTIAL PRESENTATIONS

**Essential 1—MEDICAL EVIDENCE OF A SOUL:** We show evidence, from **Near-Death Experiences** (NDEs) and **Terminal Lucidity** (a clarity of consciousness sometimes occurring shortly before death in persons with dementia, Alzheimer's, and irreversible brain damage) that consciousness is not dependent on physical bodies or brains, and therefore, that we have souls that survive bodily death.

**Essential 2—SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE OF GOD'S EXISTENCE:** We give evidence from the **Big Bang**, the **BVG Proof** (that all expanding universes have to have a beginning), **entropy**, and the **"fine-tuning" of the universe for life**, that our universe requires an Intelligent Creator in order to exist.

**Essential 3—PHILOSOPHICAL PROOF OF GOD'S EXISTENCE:** We demonstrate, using reasoning, from **St. Thomas Aquinas**, **C. S. Lewis**, and others, the logical necessity for there being a Transcendent Creator of the universe.

**Essential 4—PROOF OF JESUS' RESURRECTION AND DIVINITY:** We describe evidence from the **Shroud of Turin**, the **Facecloth of Oviedo**, **Historical Documents** (biblical and non-biblical), and the work of **N. T. Wright**, that the Resurrection of Jesus is an historical fact, and that He is divine.

**Essential 5—WHY BE CATHOLIC?** We show that the Catholic Church is Christ's only authentic living authority, and give evidence of miracles (through the intercession of **Mary** and the **Saints**, and for the real presence of Christ in the **Eucharist**) that demonstrate God's work in the Church.

**Essential 6—TRUE HAPPINESS:** We explain the four kinds of happiness (coming from **pleasure**, **accomplishments**, **service of others**, and **a loving relationship with God**) and show why only the latter two can give us the pervasive, enduring, and deep happiness we truly desire and need.

**Essential 7—WHY WOULD AN ALL-LOVING GOD ALLOW SUFFERING?** We guide the learner to understand the **necessity**, **meaning**, and **benefits** of suffering, which are growing in the love of God, others, and ourselves, and attaining happiness for ourselves and others here, and with God for eternity in Heaven! Rev. 3-21-20