

# Resurrection: What if It's True

John 20:24-31  
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## I. Four Theories that Promote the Resurrection of Jesus is a Myth:

**Theory 1** Jesus Didn't Really Die

**Theory 2** Wish Fulfillment

**Theory 3** A "Spiritual Only" Resurrection

**Theory 4** The Disciples Perpetuated a Hoax

## II. The Process of Dealing with Our Doubts:

### Observation 1-

Thomas is open and honest about his doubts. (verses 24, 25)

### Observation 2-

Jesus meets Thomas in his unbelief. (verses 26, 27)

### Observation 3-

Thomas chooses to embrace both the Resurrection and deity of Christ. (verse 28)

## III. Each person must choose to believe or reject the Resurrection.

*“What other than the Resurrection explains the rapid emergence of the church, poorly organized but highly infectious?”*

*What other than the Resurrection explains the conversion of skeptics like Paul?*

*What other than the Resurrection explains the change of the Jewish Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday—unthinkable for devout Jews unless something very significant happened on that day?*

*What other than the Resurrection explains the early and repeated message that Jesus was alive, and explains why the disciples based every other Christian belief on that? (‘Peter and the other apostles replied: “The God of our fathers raised Jesus from the dead—whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree...We are witnesses of these things”’ [Acts 5:30, 32]; ‘If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins’ [1 Corinthians 15:17]; ‘If you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved’ [Romans 10:9].)”*

*-From *What Difference Does Jesus Make?* by Judson Poling ©2003 Willow Creek Association, p. 64-65.*