

The Case for Christ Study Questions

Chapter 1

1. Describe how each of the writers of the gospels was able to accurately record direct or indirect eyewitness testimony.
2. According to Blomberg, how do Paul's letters shorten the gap between the events of Jesus' life and the writing of the gospels?

Chapter 2

1. How does Blomberg demonstrate the reliability of the oral tradition of the ancient Middle East?
2. The lack of consistency in the gospels may not be a drawback. Why?
3. Did the gospel writers have anything to gain by biasing or covering up what really happened? Explain.
4. The end of the chapter asks, "Which of these eight tests do you consider the most persuasive and why?" Please answer this question.

Chapter 3

1. Compare the quantity and accuracy of the New Testament manuscripts to other ancient literature.
2. What were the three basic criteria used by the early church to determine which documents would be included in the New Testament?

Chapter 4

1. What does corroborate mean?
2. If we didn't have any of the New Testament writings, what information would we still know about Jesus?
3. Name two of the early writers, outside of Christians, who mention Jesus. What do they corroborate about him?

Chapter 5

1. What can't archaeology prove or disapprove?
2. Cite one example for each of how archaeology supports the accuracy of Luke, John, and Mark.
3. How does McRay explain the census, the existence of Nazareth, and the slaughter at Bethlehem?

Chapter 6

1. Who is the real Jesus according to the Jesus Seminar?
2. Explain double dissimilarity and multiple attestation criteria used by the Jesus Seminar to determine what Jesus said. What are the problems associated with this reasoning?
3. Does the Jesus of history strengthen the Jesus of faith? Explain.

Chapter 7

1. Explain the significance of choosing twelve disciples.
2. According to Witheringham, Jesus did not have an identity crisis but points of identity confirmation. When did these happen?
3. From the end of the chapter please answer these questions: What are some reasons why Jesus was evasive in disclosing who he was in public? Jesus taught his disciples to use the term Abba or Dearest Father in addressing God. What does this tell you about Jesus' relationship with the Father?

Chapter 8

1. List the characteristics and actions of people with psychological difficulties and compare with Collins' observations about Jesus.
2. Why is hypnosis not a reasonable explanation for the miracles of Jesus?

Chapter 9

1. What are the two major reasons Carson uses to illustrate that Jesus is God?
2. In spite of his human limitations, show how Jesus could still be omniscience, omnipresence, omnipotence, eternal, and immutable.
3. According to Carson, how can a loving God and hell be reconciled?
4. Did Jesus condone slavery? Explain.

Chapter 10

1. How does Lapidus refute each of the four arguments presented to disprove Jesus' fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy?

Chapter 11

1. According to Metherell, what was Jesus' condition even before the crucifixion?
2. What is the cause of death for a crucifixion victim?
3. What is the medical explanation to give credibility to John 19:34?
4. How would you answer Strobel's question, "What could possibly have motivated a person to agree to endure this sort of punishment?"

Chapter 12

1. Describe how the tomb of Jesus was secured.
2. How important are the discrepancies of the empty tomb stories and can they be harmonized?
3. How does the fact that the discovery of the empty tomb was by women help authenticate the story?

Chapter 13

1. What reasons does Habermas cite for believing 1 Corinthians 15 as an early creed of the church?
2. List seven appearances of Christ that you feel substantiate the Resurrection of Jesus.
3. Explain why possibilities 1 and 2 are not viable alternatives.
4. Please answer these questions from the end of the chapter, "Habermas reduced the issue of the resurrection down to two questions: Did Jesus die? And was he later seen alive? Based on the evidence so far, how would you answer those questions and why?"

Chapter 14

1. How do the life changes in Moreland's Exhibits 1 and 2 provide circumstantial evidence for the Resurrection?
2. When Jews followed Christianity their social structure changed in what ways?
3. What makes the rituals of communion and baptism unique to the early church?

Chapter 15

If all the evidence reported in the preceding fourteen chapters is true, what are the implications for Strobel and for you?