

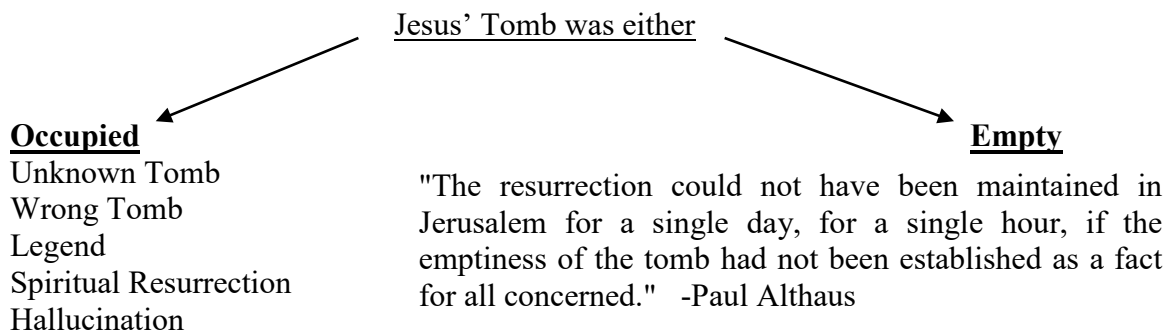
# Defending the Resurrection

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“Once you eliminate the impossible, whatever remains, no matter how improbable, must be the truth.”  
– Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, author of Sherlock Holmes

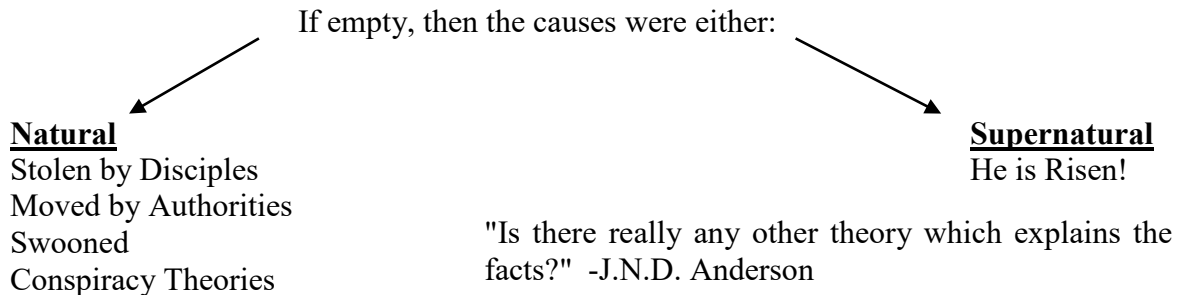
## I. The Importance of the Resurrection

## II. Was Jesus’ Tomb Empty?



"It passes the bounds of credibility that the early Christians could have manufactured such a tale and then preached it among those whom might easily refute it simply by producing the body of Jesus." –John Warwick Montgomery

## III. Why was Jesus’ Tomb Empty?



## IV. Circumstantial Evidence

- a. The Church
- b. Sunday Worship
- c. Baptism
- d. Communion
- e. Changed lives

"That a few simple men should in one generation have invented so powerful and appealing a personality, so loft an ethic, and so inspiring a vision of human brotherhood, would be a miracle far more incredible than any recorded in the gospels." -Will Durant

## V. Conclusion

“On the third day the friends of Christ coming at day-break to the place found the grave empty and the stone rolled away. In varying ways they realized the new wonder; but even they hardly realized that the world had died in the night. What they were looking at was the first day of a new creation, with a new heaven and a new earth; and in a semblance of the gardener God walked again in the garden, in the cool not of the evening but the dawn.”

-G.K. Chesterton  
The Everlasting Man

**For Further Reading:**

Wright, N.T., *The Resurrection of the Son of God* (Fortress Press 2003)

Morrison, Frank, *Who Moved the Stone* (Zondervan 1958)

Copan, Paul, *Will the Real Jesus Please Stand Up?: A Debate between William Lane Craig and John Dominic Crossan*, (Baker 1998)

Copan, Paul and Ronald K. Tacelli, *Jesus Resurrection Fact or Figment?* (Intervarsity 2000)