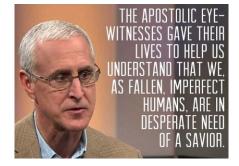


#### 9.8.2018

# THE CRUCIFIXION PARADOX A Cold-Case Homicide Investigation

J. Warner Wallace is an American homicide detective and Christian champion. He is a Senior Fellow at the Colson Center for Christian Worldview and a Professor of Apologetics at Biola University. Warner is an author of several books in which he applies principles of Cold Case Homicide investigations and Scientific Forensics to preserving religious doctrines such as the existence of God and the reliability of the Gospels.



As a homicide detective, Wallace has investigated a number of high-profile cold-case murders. His cases have been featured on Court TV, Fox, NBC Dateline and TruTV. He is a founding member of the Torrance Police Department Cold-Case Homicide Unit and has earned numerous awards and commendations for solved cold cases.

J. Warner Wallace was an ardent Atheist who was wed to Science, Proof and Evidence. In 1996, he became a Christian at the age of 35, after investigating the Gospels as potential eyewitness accounts to the life of Jesus. He became a Spiritfilled Christian who devotes his Life Force bringing a scientifically confirmed Jesus alive to the world using Hard Evidence to make his case. To a Believer, the Proof is Absolute Truth. To Skeptics, his message shakes their beliefs or lack thereof to the core.



Let us listen carefully as we take a Spiritual Journey and consider the Wisdom of Holy Scripture and Catechism. May God give to each one of us the necessary means to complete His Gift of our Unique and Holy Mission.



#### John 19:31-36 – The Blood and Water

Now since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the Sabbath, for the Sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down.

So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out.

An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may come to believe. For this happened so that the scripture passage might be fulfilled: "Not a bone of it will be broken."

### John 20:1-10 – The Empty Tomb

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.



They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the scripture that he had to rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned home.

#### John 20:11-18 – The Appearance to Mary Magdala

But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the body of Jesus had been.

And they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken my Lord, and I don't know where they laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus.

Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" She thought it was the gardener and said to him, "Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni," which means Teacher.

Jesus said to her, "Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, 'I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."

Mary Magdala went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and what he told her.

The Word of the Lord

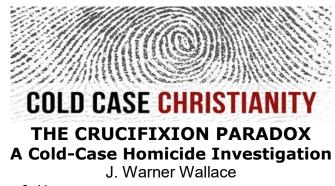
# <u>Catechism</u>

#### 1816 - Faith and Christian Witness

The disciple of Christ must not only keep the faith and live on it, but also profess it, confidently bear witness to it, and spread it. "All however must be prepared to confess Christ before men and to follow him along the way of the Cross, amidst the persecutions which the Church never lacks." Service of and witness to the faith is necessary for salvation: "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my father who is in Heaven."



WWW.CMFNEO.org Catholic Men's Fellowship Website



I'm a Christian because... 2:41 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-792oFI-jc

Did Jesus really die on the Cross? 9:02 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=171&v=mikCXifPeP0</u>

Did the Disciples Conspire to Lie about the Resurrection? 7:52 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dTXBmswx81c

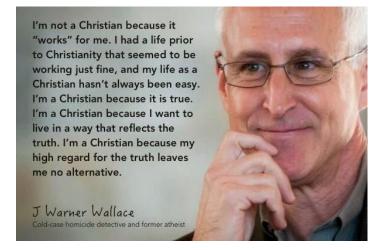


Could the Resurrection have been a Hallucination? 3:41 https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\_continue=213&v=AAdFiUzVS3A

# **Questions for Discussion:**

1. Have you ever questioned or challenged the veracity of the Gospels?

2. Has anyone ever questioned your Christian Faith and you were unable to respond? Explain.











# Bring Christ into the Emptiness of Our Lives

- Spend time with Lord Jesus in Adoration. Silence fills the emptiness. Silence isn't an absence; it's presence.
- > Spend time with those who bring joy to life. Family, friends, church...
- Invite Christ into your relationships. Acknowledge His presence in every moment, whether you're alone or with others; pray together.
- Ask God for Deeper Trust. Doubting is OK if we bring it honestly to Him. He can and will use that to bring you to a place of Deeper Trust in Him.
- Just be in the emptiness, not running from it, not trying to fix or fill it. Letting Him love you and do the work He wants you to do.
- Ask: What is Christ trying to teach me during this period of emptiness? How does He want me to grow from this experience?

WHEN I'M WORRIED, IT'S USUALLY BECAUSE I'M TRYING TO DO EVERYTHING MYSELF. WHEN I'M AT PEACE, IT'S USUALLY BECAUSE I REMEMBER THAT GOD IS IN CONTROL.

To a Believer, the Gospel is Absolute Truth. To a Sceptic, God's message shakes them to the core. Spend time with Jesus.

May God Bless You. St. Hilary Men's Group

"I'm not a Christian today because I was raised that way or because it satisfies some need or accomplishes some goal. I'm simply a Christian because it's evidentially true."

#### WWW.CMFNEO.org Catholic Men's Fellowship Website



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son. Come dwell in my heart.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave.

Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to bless my family, friends and those who you put into my life. Where there is joy, give them continued joy. Where there is pain or sorrow, give them peace and mercy. Where there is doubt, release in them a renewed confidence. Fill their every need and emptiness with your Holy Grace.

You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior. Amen



"Spend as much time as possible in front of the Blessed Sacrament and He will fill you with His strength and His power." -Mother Teresa PEOPLE MAY NOT REMEMBER EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID OR WHAT YOU SAID, BUT THEY WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL.

GO TO CONFESSION. ILLUMINATE CHRIST.

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9

