### Jesus: The Only Way



# How would you respond?



#### ethics

love

theology

cosmology archeology

belief

history

religion

answers

Greek: apologia

science questions

morals

philosophy

rational

psychology

respect

worldview

evangelism

apologetics
gentleness

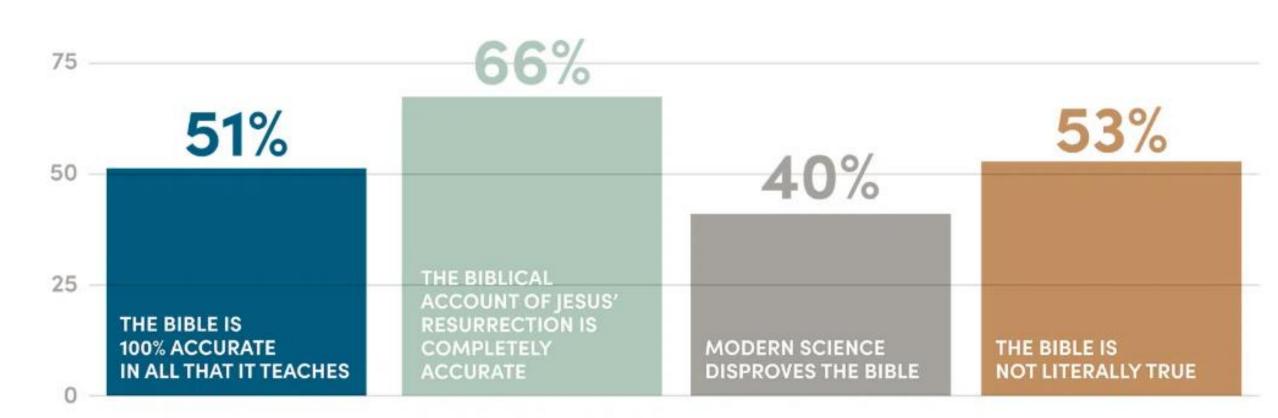
doubt thinking But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.

1 Peter 3:15

#### **Biblical Balance**

Percentage of Americans who agree





#### **Lifeway** research

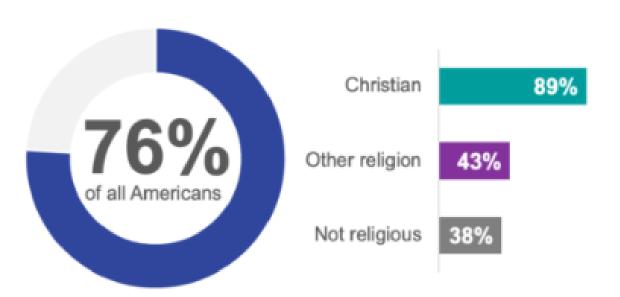
lifewayresearch.com



### Most Americans believe Jesus was an important spiritual figure, although, some question His historical existence

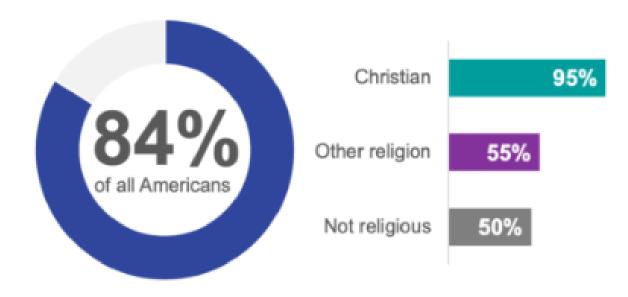
Do you believe in the historical existence of Jesus Christ or Jesus of Nazareth?

% Yes



Do you believe Jesus was an important spiritual figure?

% Yes







68%

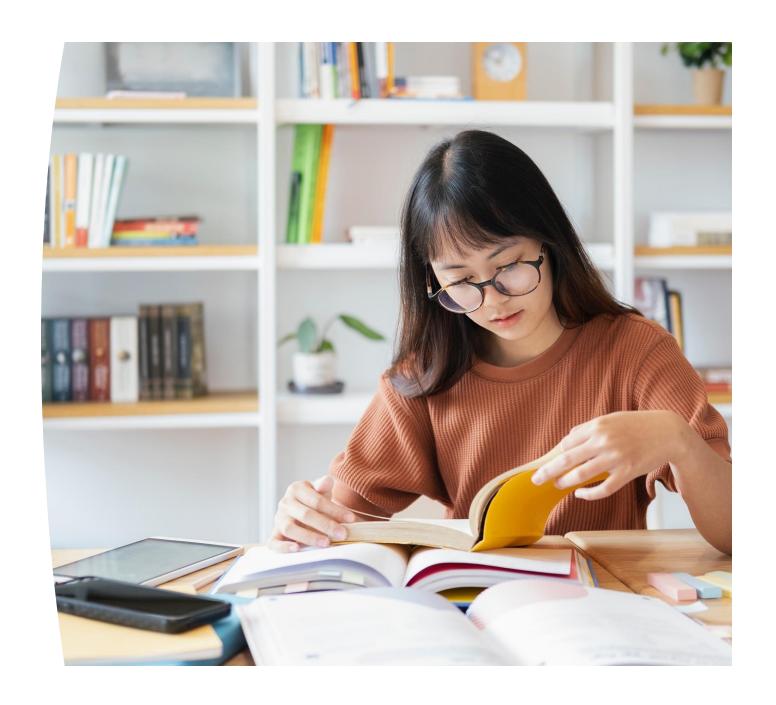
of young people agree that "There are many religions that I agree with."

**58%** 

of young people agree that "I do not feel like I need to be connected to one specific religion."

### The Case for the Reliability of the Gospels

Written Early On



### The Case for the Reliability of the Gospels

- Written Early On
- ► Attested (there's evidence)



### Testing the Reliability of Scripture

### Internal Evidence

- Dating & Location
- Authorship
- Criteria of Authenticity

## External Evidence

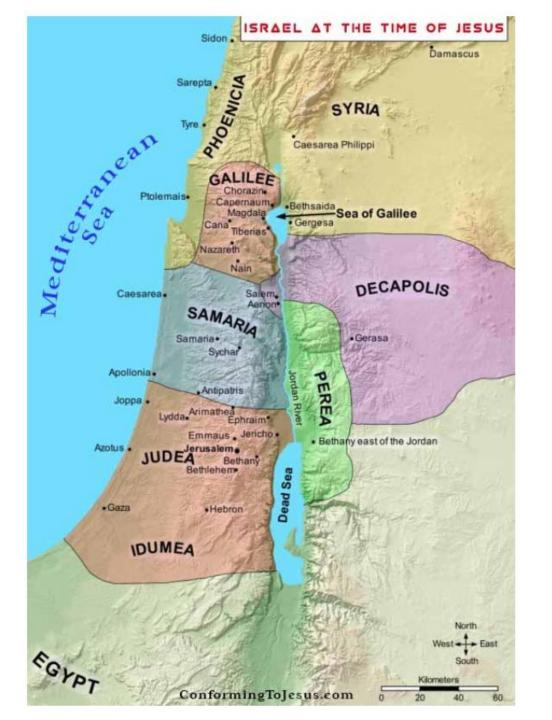
- Archaeology
- Corroborating texts
- Other science

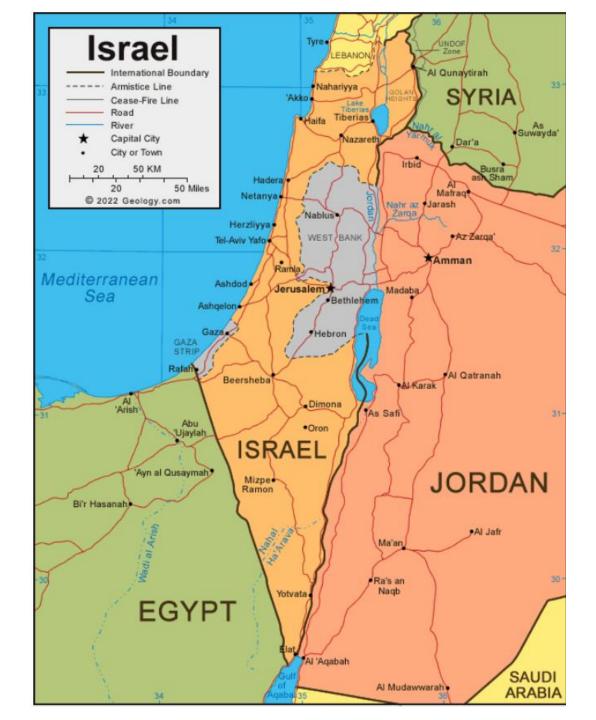
### The Case for the Reliability of the Gospels

- Written Early On
- ► Attested (there's evidence)
- ▶ Places and People Exist









AR Silver young man head Hezekiah owl Governor of Judea 350-302 BC half-ma-ahobol 333-302 BC Inscription: "YHZQKYH" (Hezekiah)

Inscription: Rev:ヨュドロ目 [YHZQYH] "Hezekiah" 日月1日 [ha-pehah] "Governor"**www.bible.ca/coins**  Inscription: "HPHH" (governor) M:22

H:1069

### The Case for the Reliability of the Gospels

- Written Early On
- ► Attested (there's evidence)
- ▶ Places and People Exist
- Accurate





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MS 2648 Bible: Joshua. Egypt, late 2nd c. The oldest MS of this part of the Bible



#### **Textual Criticism**



https://blog.lexhampress.com/2019/01/31/textual-criticism-and-the-authority-of-scripture/

Sit up 'f yu R AWSUM!

Sit up 'f yu R AWSUM! and i yu is awezome!

Sit up 'f yu R AWSUM!

and i yu is awezome!

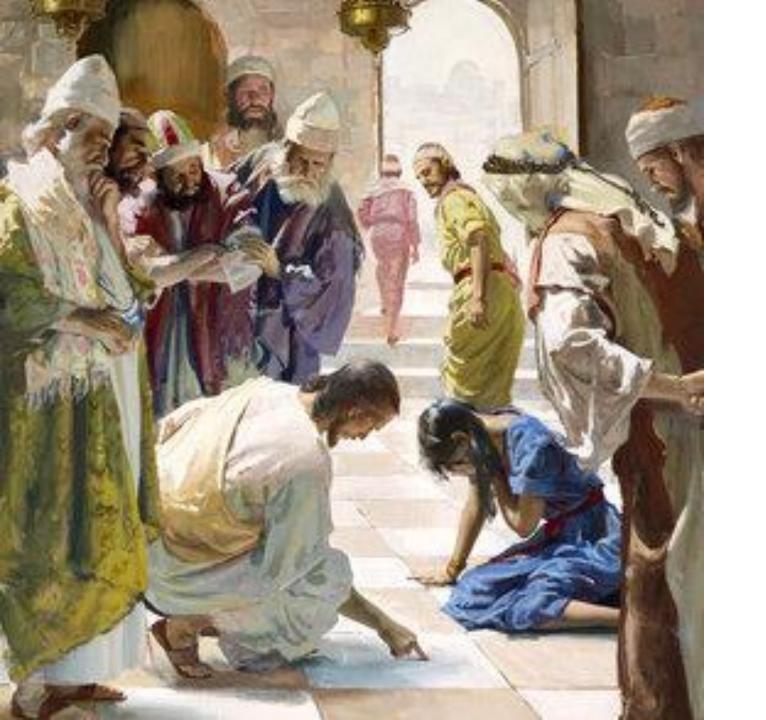
\$tan uq f y'all aré amesowe!

Sit up 'f yu R AWSUM!

and i yu is awezome!

\$tan uq f y'all aré amesowe!

Stand up if you are owesame!



# Example from Scripture

John 7:53-8:11

### The Case for the Reliability of the Gospels

- Written Early On
- Attested (there's evidence)
- ▶ Places and People Exist
- Accurate
- Same basic message about Jesus
- **▶** Embarrassment
- ▶ Transformed Lives



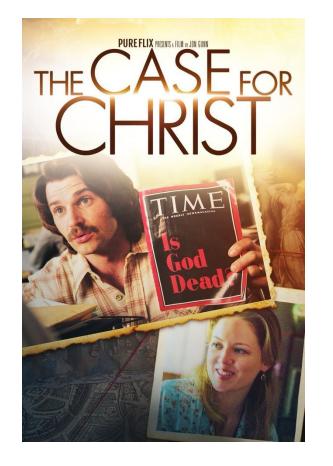
# What do the gospels say about Jesus?

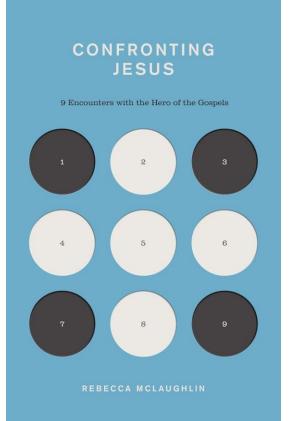
"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."

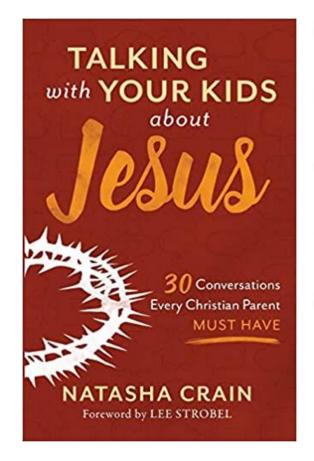
JOHN 3:16 (ESV)

"Therefore, I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." "But what about you?' He asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Peter answered, 'You are the messiah.'"

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."









Forthcoming book from Groothuis and Medenwaldt - 2026

#### Recommended Resources

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Order it online!

