

Study Guide: Crushing the Legend Hypothesis

Big Question

If someone told you the Resurrection was just a legend made up centuries later, how would you respond — honestly?

Write your gut reaction here:

→ _____

Core Scripture

- **1 Corinthians 15:3–8** — Paul recounts the Resurrection as **early, eyewitness testimony**, not folklore.
- **Acts 2:22–24** — Peter preaches Jesus' death and resurrection **immediately after it happened**, not decades later.
- **2 Peter 1:16** — "*We did not follow cleverly devised myths...*"

→ Read these out loud or in your head, and ask:

Does this sound like people selling a myth, or eyewitnesses willing to die for a fact?



Key Fallacies Behind the Legend Hypothesis

Fallacy #1: "*Legends pop up overnight!*"

Reality:

Legends usually take **centuries** to evolve — the Resurrection was preached **within months**, in the very city where it could've been debunked immediately.

Fallacy #2: "*The disciples made it up for power!*"

Reality:

The disciples got **beaten, tortured, imprisoned, exiled, and killed** — not rich, famous, or comfy. *You don't die for what you know is a lie.*

Fallacy #3: "*History can't verify miracles.*"

Reality:

History can verify whether people claimed a miracle happened and whether they were willing to die for it.

That's exactly what the Resurrection evidence shows.

Discussion Questions

1. **Have you ever wrestled with doubts about the Resurrection being “too good to be true”?**

→ Why or why not?
2. **Why do you think God allowed the Resurrection to be so public and yet still demand faith?**

→ What does that tension teach us about the nature of belief?
3. **When you look at the early Christians' suffering and deaths, how does that strengthen your confidence in the Resurrection?**
4. **How would your daily faith change if you truly believed, deep in your bones, that the Resurrection is a verifiable event — not just a religious hope?**

Action Steps

→ Watch Yourself:

- The next time you hear someone call Christianity a "myth," **don't panic.**
- Ask them: **"What historical evidence do you have that the Resurrection was a later invention?"**
(They usually have none — just vibes.)

→ Reinforce Your Arsenal:

- Memorize **1 Corinthians 15:3–8**. It's your theological nuke against the "legend" theory.

→ Preach to Your Own Doubt:

- When your mind whispers, *"Maybe this is all made up,"* answer back with the blood of the eyewitnesses and the empty tomb.

Tattooed Apologist Challenge

Bold Faith Over Soft Feelings:

Living like Jesus *actually* walked out of His grave means you walk differently — bolder, louder, freer.

Write down one specific area of your life where you will walk with **Resurrection-level boldness** this week:

→ _____

