

RESURRECTION THEORIES

A. POSSUM THEORIES (Jesus didn't really die, it just looked like it)

1. SWOON THEORY: Jesus “swooned” (fainted) on the cross, was buried, and then got up and either lived for a little bit (and then died) or disappeared to another country so he wouldn't be killed.
2. DRUGGED-BODY THEORY: Some kind of a plant-derived drug was given to Jesus that made him look like he was dead when he really wasn't.

B. CONSPIRACY THEORIES (Secret truth never before revealed!)

3. STOLEN BODY THEORY: The disciples secretly stole Jesus' body and then invented the story of the resurrection.
4. MISSING BODY THEORY: Someone else (not the disciples) took Jesus' body, which made the disciples think Jesus rose from the dead, who then told everyone.
5. UNKNOWN TOMB THEORY: The disciples didn't know which tomb Jesus was placed in, so it appeared as if Jesus rose from the dead, and then they told everyone.
6. TWIN THEORY: Jesus had a twin that either died in place of the real Jesus or went around town after Jesus' death saying that *he* was actually the real Jesus. The disciples believed him and then told everyone that Jesus had risen from the dead.

C. MIND TRICK THEORIES (Disciples tricked into belief)

7. HALLUCINATION/VISION THEORY: The disciples had visions or dreamed that Jesus rose from the dead.
8. HYPNOSIS THEORY: Jesus was a hypnotist who caused miracles by magic and hypnosis. Before he died, Jesus hypnotized his disciples to believe that he would rise from the dead.

D. MYTH THEORIES (Jesus rose, but not *literally*...)

9. SPIRITUAL RESURRECTION THEORY: Jesus' *body* didn't rise from the dead, but his *spirit* did (kind of like a ghost) and that is what visited the disciples.
10. “IN OUR HEARTS” RESURRECTION THEORY: Jesus was so loved by his disciples that his memory “rose” in their hearts after he died. The disciples then shared this super strong memory with others who then received ooshy gooshy feelings of Jesus as well.