



# T.E.A.M. VOICE

Issue #05-2022

## HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY

### **‘Jesus is Real’: How History and Science Validate that Christ Existed and The Gospels Are True**

Paul Strand 4/11/22 CBN News The Christian Perspective CBNNEWS.COM

This is Holy Week for Christians across the globe – a time to focus on the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Much of the world takes time to honor the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, Christ's death on the cross on Good Friday, and His resurrection from the dead on Easter Sunday. But others wonder if the Messiah is real and the Bible true. Well, do you doubt Julius Caesar existed? Or all the ancient philosophers of Greece? The truth is that there is much more proof Jesus Christ existed and that the New Testament account of His miraculous story from incarnation to resurrection is trustworthy.

[Alex McFarland](#) is a leading Christian apologist. If you're wondering, that doesn't mean he apologizes for the faith. It means he defends Christ's history and shows why you can trust it. To get there, he first explains the four kinds of testimony historians desire:

"They want eyewitness testimony. They want multiple testimon[ies]. They want early testimony. And the fourth is hostile testimony," McFarland told CBN News.

### **The Gospels: both Early & Eyewitness Testimony From Multiple Sources**

As for eyewitness and early, the Gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John are by men who either knew Jesus in the flesh or got their facts from eyewitnesses like Mary, the mother of Jesus, and others. Saint Paul's epistles are written by a man who encountered the resurrected Christ.

"We have got the Gospels coming to us less than 10 years after the cross," this leader of [Truth for a New Generation](#) pointed out.

Compare that to the 643 ancient copies of Homer's Iliad, whose authenticity scholars don't question.

"But from the time of the writing to the copies we have: it was more than 500 years. In fact, around 900 years," McFarland stated.

### **First Copies of Caesars' Annals are Almost 1,000 Years Later**

He added, "We've got the annals of Caesar, which comes to us in several dozen copies. But, again, the earliest copies we have from the time of writing: nearly a millennia. A thousand years."

Compare that to the main facts about Christ: "The core of Jesus' identity, message, credentials was in circulation regularly within eight weeks after the cross," the apologist commented.

### **Talk of Christ from Ancient Non-Christians is Plentiful**

As for hostile testimony – or at least not pro-Christian – many outside sources wrote of this Jesus.

McFarland said these sources wrote of, "'A worker of wonders,' did miracles, claimed to be God, crucified at Passover: the core facts of the Gospel – death, deity, and resurrection – just based on ancient Jewish, Greek, and Roman sources that certainly were no friend to the burgeoning Church."

McFarland explained, "That's very compelling to historians because it represents objectivity, that those sources – no friend of the movement – also corroborate the core facts of what we know about Jesus."

Also, the apologist pointed out, Will Durant, an atheist most of his life, but possibly the world's most trusted historian, testified that "The four Gospels are absolutely trustworthy from a historical standpoint."

### **You Don't Doubt Aristotle or Caesar Really Lived**

McFarland suggested Durant would say if we reject those Gospels, "We would also have to reject a hundred other ancient names, the authenticity of which no historian would dream of questioning – Aristotle, Julius Caesar – people we don't have as much evidence for as we do for Jesus."

Filmmaker Rick Larson finds proof of Christ and the miraculous world around him in a whole different sphere: scientific evidence.

### **Hard Evidence for Physical Events at Christ's Birth & Death**

This creator of the documentaries [The Star of Bethlehem](#) and The Christ Quake, said, "There are two great events in Christianity: there's the incarnation, and there are the execution and resurrection. Those are the two great events. And those two things, God chose to leave hard evidence that we can find today and show that they occurred."

In The Star of Bethlehem documentary, Larson found there really was a light in the heavens that guided the Wise Men to baby Jesus. It was even shown on coins made at the time.

## **The Lord of Heaven & Earth**

The Christ Quake shows Larson's crew finding in ground once covered by the Dead Sea the geologic ripples of the gigantic earthquake that split rocks at the very hour of Jesus's death. It all proves to Larson who God is: Lord of heaven and earth.

"The two documentaries show that the star of Bethlehem was real – that's the heavens. And the quake at the cross was real. He is the Lord of heaven and earth. And He chose to leave enough evidence for us to see those things are true," Larson contended.

## **Science that Backs Up What Matthew Described**

The Gospel of Matthew discussed both the star and quake.

Larson asserted, "And for both star of Bethlehem and for the quake at the cross, the facts we find – hard, scientific facts we find – are consistent with the record in Matthew."

Both Larson's documentaries are now [available in a box set](#).

As for the written record, remember the hundreds of ancient copies of Homer's 'Iliad' and the dozens of Caesars' biographies? Many more manuscripts of the New Testament exist.

## **30,000 Copies**

McFarland said of them, "Fragments, portions, complete New Testaments: roughly 30,000 copies."

And even if we didn't have those, the apologist explained, "We could reconstruct verbatim the entire New Testament – Matthew through Revelation – just based on more than a half-million verse citations by early church leaders that've been discovered."

The trustworthy history in the New Testament finally brought the atheist master historian Durant around.

## **The Historicity of Jesus: He Is Real**

McFarland shared, "It is said that Durant became a Christian before he died because he was compelled by the historicity of Jesus."

The biblical apologist's conclusion: a believer does need faith in Christ, "But it's a faith validated and worthy of our trust, our following, and our obedience. Jesus is real."

Submitted by George Tamburino (NY)

## **A PRETTY ALL-ENCOMPASSING PRAYER**

Our dear heavenly Father, in Jesus' name we come humbly before you and ask your forgiveness for our sins and the sins of our nation. We acknowledge that you are Lord of Lords, King of kings, the one true God. We ask that you touch the hearts of our leaders to turn to you and do your will. We ask that they come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and savior and seek to follow your word. We ask that you give us presidents who will serve you, uphold your commandments, and love and protect your people. Help us to love our enemies.

We pray for the Senate, Congress, judges, and all elected and unelected officials at the federal, state, county, and city levels. May they hear your voice and give you their lives in service to America, one nation under God. May they not follow their own political ambitions but serve out of love for their fellow man. Lord, help us to replace the leaders who have only self-serving ambitions with God fearing servants who respect life at all stages. Satan, we bind you in Jesus' name from influencing our leaders.

Dear Lord, protect our country, especially our borders, from terrorists and those who plot evil. We ask that you give charge to your angels to protect us from all harm, in Jesus' name. Defend Israel and we pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Jesus, we thank you for dying and shedding your blood to cleanse us of our sins and deliver us from the evil one, Satan. We cover this entire country with the blood of Jesus to shield us from evil. Jesus, thank you for rising so that we may have eternal life. Thank you for Our Daily Bread. Lord strengthen us and our families to be the heroes of America today. May we be witnesses of your love, grace, strength, and power. Thank you, father. Thy will be done. In Jesus mighty name we pray, Amen.

Submitted by George Tamburino (NY)

### **"LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS THYSELF"**

How many of us backslide on the important commandment of God and reminded by Jesus that this should be part of our walk with Jesus.

This can be one of our hardest commandments of all for some folks. We all have to admit to ourselves occasionally we are not doing this and repent for it. Some folks (family, friends and even strangers) just rub us the wrong way. So sorry but this does not mean we do not have to love them.

Here are several scriptures that remind us of this commandment. All KJV.

Matthew 19:19

Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Matthew 22:39

And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Galatians 5:14

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

James 2:8

If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

Luke 10:27

And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself.

Now to drive it home!

Mark 12:31

And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

There are many more but I believe the picture is very clear now.

I don't know why Father put the subject on my spirit but feel it was meant for all of us.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **2022 SPRING KICKOFF**

The 2022 Spring Kickoff is June 10-12, 2022 in Berlin, Ohio, Holmes County. RIDERS FOR THE CROSS IS HOSTING THE EVENT.

Reservations can be made at: BERLIN HERITAGE INN, P.O. BOX 331, 4703 SR 39, BERLIN, OH 44610, (FOR GPS: PUT IN MILLERSBURG 44654), PHONE 330-893-6600, USE GROUP CODE JESUS1. FRIDAY NIGHT \$124.99, SATURDAY \$104.99 PLUS TAX. WE HAVE 20 ROOMS RESERVED UNTIL MAY 27, 2022. PLEASE FILL OUT THE ATTACHED FORM IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. SEND THE FORM TO AMBER BECKMAN, EMAIL: AMBER\_BECKMAN@HOTMAIL.COM, TEXT 614-598-0682 OR MAIL 565 HIBBS ROAD, LOCKBOURNE, OHIO 43137. **PLEASE LET ME KNOW YOU ARE ATTENDING SO THAT I CAN HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT FOR CATERING, ETC.....**

**There is no registration fee.**

Food will be catered in on Saturday night by Berlin Farmstead Restaurant. The menu will be broasted chicken, roast beef, baked ham with pineapple glaze, mashed potatoes and gravy, garden salad, green beans, noodles, and dutch apple pie. We are going to have fellowship, music, speakers, training, scavenger hunt, and folding of the flag ceremony.

MOTORCYCLISTS FOR JESUS MINISTRIES  
2022 SKO Hosted by Riders For The Cross  
Registration Form  
June 10-12, 2022



- Hotel Reservations can be made at Berlin Heritage Inn – 330-893-6600. P.O. Box 331, 4703 SR39, Berlin, Ohio 44640 (for GPS: Put in Millersburg, OH 44654) Use Group Code JESUS 1

- Group rate Friday Night \$124.99, Saturday \$104.99 plus tax if made by May 27.

Name or Names of Persons Attending:

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Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm staying at Berlin Heritage Inn

Return form to: Amber Beckman, [amber\\_beckman@hotmail.com](mailto:amber_beckman@hotmail.com) or 565 Hibbs Road, Lockbourne, Ohio 43137. For questions please call 614-598-0682.

**Hello everyone.** Please submit any articles, poems, pictures, favorite verses, thoughts, or ideas they would like to see or have published in the MJM T.E.A.M. Voice newsletter to [amber\\_beckman@hotmail.com](mailto:amber_beckman@hotmail.com) or text 614-598-0682.

## **EDITOR'S THOUGHTS**

There is still a lot going on at work and at home and I have been trying to “...stand firm. Let nothing move me.” (1 Corinthians 15:58 NIV) Letting go and letting God is a very hard thing to do at times. “I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?” (Jeremiah 32:27 NIV) My husband is getting ready to go out of town for a week for work and that always stresses me out. The weather is getting nicer and we have a lot of outside work to do and not enough time to do it. My husband's inside house project is not done yet. At work there might be more changes coming and I haven't adjusted to the current changes.

I have to remind myself I am not alone and God has my back. John 16:33 (KJV), “These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.”



“Therefore if the son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.” John 8:36 (KJV)

## May 2022 Voice Newsletter Report

April 29, 2022

### Years of Service for April

Billy	Rose	12
Kimberly	Rose	4
Robert	Dillon	31
Kathleen	Dillon	31
Gary	Matson	25
Kathleen	Matson	25
Richard	Miller	33
C. Wesley	Miller	32
Sophia	Miller	32
Philip	Guica	21
Belva	Guica	21
Michael	Fields	10
Kimberly	Fields	10
Daniel	Shinners	18
Linda	Shinners	18
John R.	Platchek	9
Sharon A.	Platchek	9

### May Birthdays

Brenda	Nelson	5/2
Robert	Brown	5/2
Cynthia	Laemmerhirt	5/10
John E.	Young	5/13
Lu-Ann	Kubicar	5/14
George	Kadash	5/15
Russell	Hare	5/16
Peter	Wong	5/16
Eugene Jr.	Krebs	5/18
C. Wesley	Miller	5/18
Linda	Guidi-Wong	5/19
Ernest	Collins	5/24
Sandra	Smith	5/26

### May Anniversaries

Greg and Elaine	Walde	5/6
Vernon and Linda	Hawkins	5/14
Eric and Holly	Gilbert	5/20
Douglas and Tonya	McDonald	5/23
Alf and Lisa	Smith	5/25

### New members for April 2022

None to report

**God Bless**

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

**Michael Fields, National Membership Secretary**



**MJM OPERATING ACCOUNT – FEBRUARY ENDING  
BALANCE** **\$ 8,251,71**

**MARCH DEPOSITS**

<b>DUES</b>	<b>290.00</b>	
<b>BANK SERVICE FEE</b>	<b>(.50)</b>	<b>289.50</b>

**NO MARCH EXPENSES**

**MARCH ENDING**

**BALANCE \*\*\*** **\$8,541.21**

**\*\*\* 2,025.68 GOODIES \*\*\***  
**6,515.53 MJM OPERATING**

**MJM LIFETIME SAVINGS ACCOUNT - FEBRUARY ENDING BALANCE**  
**\$7,859.14**

<b>MARCH INTEREST</b>	<b>\$.06</b>	
<b>MARCH ENDING BALANCE</b>		<b>\$8,309.21</b>

**Please let me know if you would like me to send you copies of the excel  
check journals**

**Submitted by Linda Hawkins**  
**National Treasurer**

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