

The Real Easter Story

Two kinds of “Proof”

*There are two ways to prove something:
the ‘Scientific Method’ and the ‘Legal/Historical Method’*

Scientific Method: (This method depends on three steps)

1) **Observation:** we must be able to observe what it is we’re testing.

Example: we throw a rock off a cliff...

2) **Measurement:** we must be able to accurately measure what it is we’re observing.

Example: we must be able to measure the force with which we throw, the angle at which we throw, and the gravitational force of the earth at that point...

3) **Repeat:** we must be able to repeat the experiment – many times, if necessary. By repeating our action of throwing a rock off the cliff, we can predict where it will land by knowing with what force and at what angle we throw it...

The scientific method works for things like developing medicines, or making airplanes, or building bridges. The scientific method would not work with anything relating to history or something like a murder. We can’t go back and observe history, or a murder, so it can’t be proven scientifically. We may use scientific tests (like DNA) to help us prove a murder happened in a certain way, but the scientific tests aren’t observing the actual event.

Lesson 1

(Continued next page)

The Real Easter Story

Two kinds of “Proof”

*There are two ways to prove something:
the ‘Scientific Method’ and the ‘Legal/Historical Method’*

Legal / Historic Method:

This method only needs a **preponderance of evidence that is beyond a reasonable doubt** to prove something. Notice it’s beyond a *reasonable* doubt, not beyond *any* doubt at all... To prove George Washington existed, we need to find archaeological evidence and / or historical evidence. That is, people referring to him in written documents, or actual things that belonged to him like homes, letters with his signature, etc. His proof of existence must come from multiple reliable sources, and it must be consistent. For instance, one source can’t say he was born in 1710, and another one claims it was 1820...

So, if someone asks you to scientifically prove that God exists, or that the Bible is reliable, they’re asking you to prove it the wrong way. It would be like asking someone to scientifically prove that love exists; it is impossible. We can prove that God exists, or that the Bible is reliable, or that Jesus rose from the dead – but not scientifically. We can prove these things by using the legal / historic method.

The purpose of The Real Easter Story is to educate the student as to the biblical reasoning and fact about the resurrection of Jesus Christ and to tell them how the Easter traditions have come into being. The student will know:

Where does the word Easter come from?

What do colored eggs and a bunny have to do with Jesus’ resurrection?

Where did all of the Easter traditions come from and how are they related to Jesus?

How to prove that His body wasn’t stolen or that He just passed out on the cross

How to medically prove that Jesus really did die

How to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Jesus really did rise from the dead

Lesson 1