NEWS FOR PEOPLE

TODAY'S HOT STORY!!!

SIONS SIONS

Read the SENSATIONAL story inside...

DAY 1

GOOD FRIDAY

- Betrayed by a friend
- Accused by false witnesses
 - THE FACTS
- Found guilty at an illegal trial
- Found innocent at a legal trial
- Beaten and abused
- Sentenced to a cruel death
- Publicly mocked
- Nailed through hands and feet
- Left to die

So why is it called GOOD Friday?

DAY 2

WHY DID JESUS DIE?

Because he couldn't escape it?

No! He predicted his own death repeatedly, and chose to go through with it, when he could easily have escaped.

 \mathbf{X} To prove his love for us?

Yes! But how does a gruesome death show love?

To set us an example?

Yes! But an example of what?

✓ To rescue us!

We are all slaves to sin. However good or religious we are, we cannot stop sin in our lives. We cannot break the chains of sin.

But Jesus said: 'If the Son (Jesus) sets you free, you will be free indeed.' (The Bible, John 8 verse 36)

• However much we protest, we are guilty of breaking God's law in thought, word and action. All that awaits us is the sentence.

'There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.' (The Bible, Romans 8 verse 1)

It was on the cross that

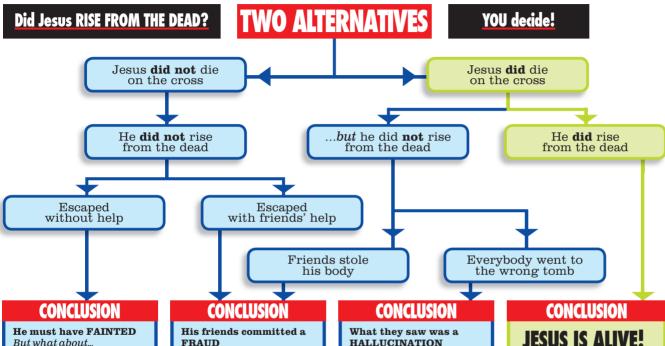
Jesus suffered the sentence for our guilt.

• We are at war with our creator. Sin has made us enemies of God.

'When we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son.' (The Bible, Romans 5 verse 10)

By his death, Jesus removed the offence of our sin, bringing peace between man and God.

3 DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD



- · Jesus' terrible injuries?
- the spear in his side?
- · his death confirmed by professional soldiers?
- · the tomb entrance sealed by an enormous stone?
- · the guards outside? Jesus would have to overcome all these obstacles and appear fresh and healthy to convince them that he was the risen Lord.

FRAUD

But how could his friends...

- get the body out of the guarded tomb, without being caught?
- convince all the many witnesses to join the conspiracy?
- suffer death for a lie they had invented?

HALLUCINATION

Not possible because...

- so many people saw him...
- including 500 at the same time...
- · including natural sceptics like 'doubting' Thomas'
- And what happened to the body?
- · Why didn't the authorities stop the rumour by producing Jesus body?

JESUS IS ALIVE!

Yes! Because...

- there was no body to be
- · there were many witnesses.
- · the disciples were transformed people.
- · no one could disprove it. · the early Christians died
- insisting it was true.
- Jesus still changes lives today

THOMAS:

I wasn't going to believe because the others said so, I wanted hard evidence -even to



put my hand in the spear wound. Of course, when I did meet him, all I could say was: 'My Lord and my God'.

MARY: I thought they had stolen his body. Where had thev put it? It never crossed my mind that he



could be alive. We had all seen him die, and had buried him. But suddenly, there he was. Instantly, I knew it was him by the way he spoke my name.

THE APOSTLES:

Men don't die for something they know is a lie. We are all prepared to die, to defend the

truth that Jesus is alive, the only one who has defeated death; the only one who can make us right with God.

THE 500: There were about 500 of us all together. Suddenly, Jesus came among us. No doubt it was

him! Can 500 people have the same hallucination? If you don't believe me, you can always check with the other 499!

DAY 3

JESUS IS ALIVE

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

PROOF HE HAS DEFEATED DEATH

Billions of people have lived, but death has defeated them all. Jesus is unique. He defeated death. He has the power to raise others to life beyond the grave.

'Everyone who looks to the Son (Jesus) and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day'. (The Bible, John $6\,\mathrm{v}\,40$)

PROOF HE IS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE

He claimed to be more than a prophet. He said he was the Son of God—the truth—the source of eternal life. God the Father brought Jesus back to life, to prove true all that Jesus said and did. 'He was declared with power to be the Son of God by his resurrection from the dead'. (The Bible, Romans 1 v 4)

PROOF HE WILL COME AGAIN

Jesus is alive. He will return to judge the earth. 'God has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead'. (The Bible, Acts 17 v 31)

DAY 3

TODAY WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?



- No longer afraid of death

 For the Christian the fear of death is taken away.

 We know it is just the doorway to a greater life with God.
- No longer living for ourselves

 For the Christian, there is no greater joy and

 honour than serving the greatest King.
- No longer alone!

For the Christian, there is forgiveness, guidance, peace, joy and love. All of them are found in the risen Jesus.

FROM DEATH TO LIFE

HOW DO YOU receive what God wants to give you through the death and resurrection of his Son, Jesus Christ?

Admit your sin — that you do, say and think wrong things. Tell God you are sorry. Ask him to forgive you, and to help you to change.

Believe that Jesus died for you, to take the punishment for your sin; that he came back to life, and that he is still alive today.

onsider the cost of living as Jesus' follower from now on, with him in charge. Not easy, but totally life-changing.

past you've gone your own way. Hand control of your life over to God. If you're ready to take this step, then talk to him now. This prayer will help you.

Dear God, I have done and said and thought things that are wrong. I am really sorry.

Please forgive me. Thank you for sending Jesus to die for me. Thank you that he rose again so that I can be your follower.

From now on, please help me to live as one of your followers, with you in charge. Amen.

For more information and help CONTACT