



“The Crux of Christianity”
Acts 1:1-3 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon
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Introduction – Luke writes the Acts of the Apostles to Theophilus to show him why Christianity is true and what accounts for its explosive growth.

I. The Acts of the Apostles.

- A. Written by Luke to Theophilus.

- B. The Gospel of Luke is the preamble to Luke’s writing the Acts of the Apostles.

II. The Crux of Christianity.

- A. Luke explains that Christianity rises or falls on the truth of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead.

- B. Luke maintains that there are many convincing proofs that Jesus physically rose from the dead.

III. Many Convincing Proofs.

- A. After His death, Jesus appeared to Peter, the twelve, and more than 500 people at the same time. (See I Corinthians 15:3-9)

- B. Jesus appeared to people alive repeatedly for 40 days after He was declared dead.

- C. But everyone has a hard time believing it.

IV. A Clash of World Views.

- A. The disciple’s world view wouldn’t allow them to believe that Jesus rose from the dead.

- B. What is a World View?
 - It is our mind’s map of reality explaining how the world works.

- C. How Jesus shattered their world view:

- D. What is the world view of our own culture that hinders people from believing in Jesus’ resurrection?

V. The Implications of Jesus’ Resurrection.

- A. The founders of other religions left their teachings behind for their followers.

- B. What Jesus left behind.

- C. If Jesus rose from the dead and is really alive then

Conclusion.