

What Does It All Meme? Message 1: A Recycled Redeemer?

"I don't know any mainstream scholar who doubts the historicity of Jesus. The details have been debated for centuries, but no one who is serious doubts that he's a historical figure." – Eric Myers (archeologist & emeritus professor of Judaic Studies at Duke University)

There is no _____ for a group of Jews to invent, and persist with, a Jesus myth in the first century.

Constantine lived almost 300 years after the death of Jesus, and the _____ for Christianity existing in the first century is beyond question.

"There is, as far as I am aware, no prima facie evidence that the death and resurrection of Jesus is a mythological construct, drawing on the myths and rites of the dying and rising gods of the surrounding world." - Tryggve Mettinger (professor & historian)

Mythologies that pre-date Jesus' life bear virtually _____ to the specific details of Jesus' life. Almost all of the alleged similarities turn out to be nonexistent.

Pagan mythologies that _____ bear some significant resemblance to Jesus' life appear only _____ His time.

Virtually all myths involving a god coming to earth share some _____ (e.g. miracles, signs and wonders, etc.). Historians do not consider these to be unique or significant characteristics.

Contrast Morgan Robertson's 1898 novel, "Futility" to the sinking of the Titanic

POINTS OF LOGIC:

If a real-life event were preceded by a _____ of the exact same event, it would have no bearing on the reality of the real-life event.

Before speculating on the sources of Jesus' _____ life, one must first prove that His life was indeed _____.

The Gospel accounts of the life of Jesus would have been the most _____ story a group of conspirators could have come up with for their target audience (e.g. pagan myths for Jews; a suffering savior instead of a conquering king, etc.).

"No one reading these scenes (the Gospels) can doubt the reality of the figure behind them. ...After two centuries of higher criticism, the outlines of the life, character and teachings of Christ remain reasonably clear and constitute the most fascinating feature in the history of Western man." - Will Durant (author of "The Story of Civilization")

No reasonable person believes that the mythological figures in question _____. In contrast, there is an *abundance* of reliable historical evidence for the existence of Jesus and His works.