"They Have Taken Away My Lord"

John 20:2...13

Mary wrongly believed . . .

- Jesus was still dead and would stay dead
- Best she could do for Him: honor body
- "They" (enemies) had taken His body; their victory is complete
- Jesus is still "Lord" though death had conquered Him
- Jesus is "Lord" though everything He said was a lie (Jn.12; Mt.16)

John 20:2...13

- Mary wrongly believed . . . Jesus was still dead and would dead In some ways, Jesus Best she could do for Him taken away "They" (enemies) their victory Jugh death had Jesus conqu Lord" though everything He said Jesus
 - was a lie (Jn.12; Mt.16)

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

His Father Took Him . . .

- From the tomb, Jn.20:15
- · From the disciples, Jn.20:17 (16:10, 28)
- · From earth to heaven, Jn.16:10; Ac.1

He reigns He He from heaven intercedes Advocates Next time, He will

take us, 1 Th.4:13-18

I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically – Scholars Take Him Away

Only desperate, closed-minded people deny that Jesus lived

- Dawkins: Jesus is 'intelligent,' 'a great moral teacher'
- Ehrman: 'He certainly existed, as virtually every competent scholar of antiquity, Christian or non-Christian, agrees'

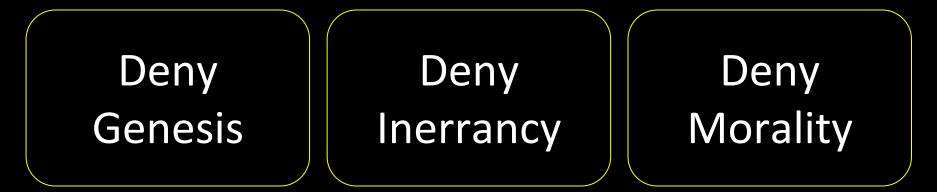
Only desperate, closed-minded people deny that Jesus lived

"We can no more reject Jesus' existence than we can reject the existence of a mass of pagan personages whose reality as historical figures is never questioned. In recent years, no serious scholar has ventured to postulate the non historicity of Jesus, or at any rate very few, and they have not succeeded in disposing of the much stronger, indeed very abundant, evidence to the contrary" – Michael Grant

Unbelievers attack foundations

Some do all they can to minimize Jesus' influence. Jn.11:45-57

Today: covertly... Seminaries –



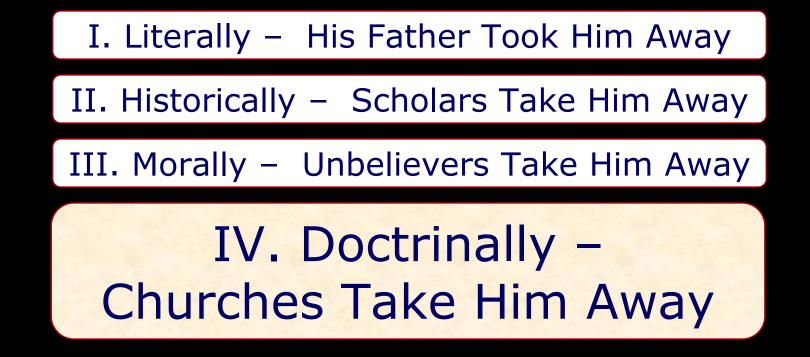
I. Literally – His Father Took Him Away

II. Historically – Scholars Take Him Away

III. Morally – Unbelievers Take Him Away

Unbelievers attack foundations <u>Courthouses – Ten Commandments</u> Schools – Study Mohammed... Textbooks – Whitewash Islam... Why? Bible Bible Bible demands condemns teaches morals Judgment sins

Hb.6:4-6



Denominations

Contrast early disciples –

- Preached the word, Ac.8:4, 5, (12-13) 25, 35
- ► Ac.8:36-38 = Mk.16:15-16

How many denominations even read these verses, much less explain them in context?

2 Tim.4:2-4

Preach the word, 2
 Expect negative reactions, 3-4

Intolerance	Soft teaching
Personal desires	Turn from truth
Itchy ears	Turn to fables

2 Tim.4:2-4

Preach the word, 2
 Expect negative reactions, 3-4

Different ways take you to heaven

Church has nothing to dow. salvation

Focus on drama, food, number, wealth

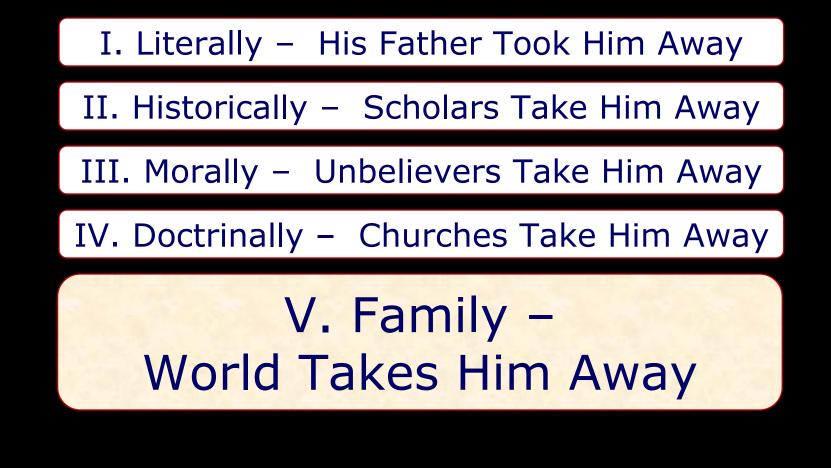
□ Jn.6:60...66

Denominations
Digressives

Why? How did apostasy happen?

• Elders. Ac.20:28-32.

TV / Recreation / Busy-ness?
Internet / email / false doctrine.
Preachers. 2 Tim.4, compromise.



Family gains world, loses Jesus

"A voice was heard in Ramah, Lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, Refusing to be comforted, Because they are no more" – Mt.2:18

(Jer.31:15)

Over the still slaughters innocents

Many think they have found Jesus A baby in the manger Want Him as infant, not Lord Jn.7:11; 9:12

Mt.16:24-26

What to do with it?



Die, leave it behind?

Get tired of it?