

Introduction: Why is Jesus' blood so precious? (1 Peter 1:19; Hebrews 9:7, 22)

- Christianity is unique: forgiveness and assurance come only through His blood.
- The only sign Jesus promised: His death and resurrection (John 2:18–22; Matthew 12:39–40).

Point 1: The Gospel as Evidence

Jesus' blood and resurrection are the **proof** of His identity. Christianity is evidence-based, not speculation. Paul presents the gospel in courtroom terms (1 Corinthians 15:1–8):

Point 2: Historical and Legal Confirmation

- Non-biblical historians confirm Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection events: Thallus, Tacitus, Josephus, Mara Bar-Serapion, Phlegon, Pliny, Suetonius, Babylonian Talmud.
- The crucifixion of Jesus is one of the most widely attested events in history.
- Alternative explanations for the resurrection fail:
 - Jesus didn't really die (disproven by spear wound, John 19:34).
 - Body still in tomb (Romans could have produced it).
 - Stolen body (guards, stone, and disciples' martyrdom refute this).
- Legal experts (Edward Clarke, Sir Lionel Luckhoo, Simon Greenleaf) affirm the resurrection as historically credible.

Point 3: The Reliability and Uniqueness of Christianity

- The Bible is historically reliable: 5,700+ manuscripts, written within decades of Jesus' death. Compared to other ancient writings, far stronger evidence.
- Other religions' claims are unverifiable and their leaders' bodies remain; Jesus' tomb is empty. Also, no other religion offers MERCY while fully satisfying the requirement for JUSTICE.
- The resurrection proves that Jesus is who He claimed to be (Son of God), There is life after death, and He is alive today, reigning and powerful.

Conclusion & Life Application

The blood of Jesus is **precious evidence**—justice and mercy meet at the cross (Romans 3:23–26; 2 Corinthians 5:21). Respond to Him and tell others.

Questions

1. Why do you think it matters that Christianity is based on historical evidence, not just feelings or ideas?
2. What difference does Jesus' resurrection make to your daily life and faith?
3. How would you explain to a friend why Jesus' blood and resurrection are unique compared to other religions?