



April 2017

Volume 11, Number 9

ost of us have heard the term "Murphy's Law," which is better stated, "If anything can go wrong, it will!" The term was alleged to be born at Edwards Air Force Base's North Base in 1949.

Captain Edward A. Murphy was an engineer working on Air Force Project MX981. This project was designed to see how much sudden deceleration a person can stand in a crash. It is rumored during the project after finding a transducer was wired wrong, he cursed the technician responsible and said, "If there is any way to do it wrong, he'll find it." The contractor's project manager kept a list of "laws" and added this one, which he simply called "Murphy's Law."

We've all had times when we became firm believers in "Murphy's Law." It is when seemingly everything that could possibly go wrong in our particular situation "goes wrong!" It is the day your spouse of twenty years gives you the news he or she no longer wants to be married. It is the day you had your follow-up doctor's visit and found the test results revealed cancer.

In one way or another, we've all had our Murphy's Law moments! The Bible tells us it rains on the just as well as the unjust; but when the rain pours, we all sometimes ask, why me?

The Bible speaks about someone who experienced the personification of Murphy's Law, complicated by one bad experience after another. He experienced the pain of betrayal by one friend and denial by another. At the end of his worst day, he felt the loneliness of desertion, the brutal agony of beatings, and the slanderous accusations of false witnesses who appeared before him in a kangaroo court, sentencing him to death on a cross. Anything that could have gone wrong went wrong.

But the Bible tells us Jesus "humbled himself, and be-

came obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:8) And through what seemed to be Jesus's worst day on earth, God brought a day of victory. Through His death we have salvation. Instead of calling it a day of dread or dismay, we gratefully call it Good Friday.

As believers go through the "Murphy's Law" moments of life, we have hope that this same Jesus is with us during our worst days and has promised never to leave nor to forsake us (Hebrews 13:5b). What does this mean in our Murphy moments? It means we still serve a God who, in our worst experiences, is able to do above and beyond all we can think or imagine in our lives so ultimately He is glorified (Ephesians 3:20).

During the challenging moments in our lives, even when we make mistakes, Jesus is right there with us. He is our Advocate (1John 2:1b); and as stated in Hebrews 2:18, He is one who is familiar with our sufferings and temptations. He is able to provide the strength to be victorious in every bad situation so we can know "All things work together for good to them that love God...." (Romans 8:28a)

Your circumstances may not be nearly as horrific; your day may not be half as bad as Jesus' Friday was! Nevertheless, whatever your day may hold — whether Friday, Monday, or any other day of the week — our Lord is able to turn it into a good day! Our celebration of Resurrection Sunday, which the world calls "Easter Sunday," is a reminder to us no matter what we are going through, we can celebrate in the knowledge our Fridays lead to Resurrection Sunday.

- Dr. L.W. Edwards

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Q. What is the strongest argument for Christianity?

A. During a recent conversation with Nadia*, a Muslim co-worker, about Jesus Christ, the Bible, and Christianity, I sought a compelling argument which would convince her of the truth. She explained the similarities between all religions, told me about her Muslim cleric and his citation of other religious texts including the Bible, and then shared how Muslims believed the Bible (and in the Prophet Jesus). From the conversation I learned she considered the scientific credibility of Islam its most endearing quality. As an example, she explained some natural phenomena in the animal kingdom which the Koran had identified before the scientific community.

When the topic turned to Jesus, my friend Nadia quickly pointed out she believed in His Second Coming and even in what we would refer to as His Millennial Reign, but did not believe He is the Son of God as the Bible teaches. He was simply another prophet like Moses and Abraham.

I said if Jesus were just a prophet, then He was a liar because He claimed to be the Son of God. Demons even affirmed His identity as the Son of God. Then the Holy Spirit led me to say something which changed the course of our discussion: "Jesus rose again from the dead, proving that everything He said was true."

Nadia asked, "You believe that Jesus rose again? I did not know Christians believed that." Of course she didn't: The idea of someone dying and then being resurrected in the same, physical body is all but unheard-of in other world religions. Only Christianity claims its Founder rose from the dead. Only Christianity has the evidence to back it up. And only Christianity lives or dies based on the validity of this evidence.

Theologian Gerald O'Collins declared, "In a profound sense, Christianity without the resurrection is not simply Christianity without its final chapter. It is not Christianity at all." (Here's an article on "If there was no Resurrection.")

Lee Strobel thoroughly investigated the Resurrection evidence for himself and wrote about it in *The Case for Christ*. His book examines the case for Jesus's missing body and subsequent appearances, and the circumstantial (indirectly related) evidence for His Resurrection. I have listed five of his most convincing findings below:

The empty tomb is reported in extremely early sources such as Mark's Gospel, which was written near the time the Resurrec-

tion actually occurred.

The Gospels report women first discovered the empty tomb. If the story had been fabricated, the writers in that cultural setting would not have credited women with this discovery.

"Nobody knowingly and willingly dies for a lie." The disciples proclaimed the Resurrection was true until they were killed for their witness.

Previous skeptics such as James and >>>Keep Reading



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