

Running head: Reflections on the Case for Christ

Reflections on the Case for Christ

Jessie Rayos

Life of Christ

Reflections on the Case for Christ

Watching this documentary on the Case for Christ was very helpful to me because it gave me a motivation to dig deeper than I was digging previously. When first hearing about the case for Christ I imagined that it would be a boring documentary on Apologetics that would explain to a skeptic why they should believe in Christ. While in my opinion this documentary is filled with apologetics it keeps things interesting by explaining Lee Strobel's story and journey from atheism to Christianity. I found this angle fascinating because of Lee's background as a court room reporter. I loved how he brought this case forward like if it was a court case that we were all attending together and was willing to follow the evidence wherever it took him. As a court room reporter he was able to use his experience to investigate the claims of Christ and essentially put him on trial. This made things interesting because of how he walks you through his own personal journey along with the apologetics involved.

One of the key things that I noticed is when he talked about eye witness testimony in a court case. My instinct would be that if I was on a jury and each person shared the same exact eye witness testimony that they were telling the truth. He quickly blew my mind when he said that when they see witnesses in a court case being that in sync it is usually false. When this happens it becomes apparent that the witnesses were working together to tell the same story and that actually gives their testimonies no credibility. It makes it look like they worked together on their fake stories behind the scenes in order to make sure that they were on the same page. He went on to say that in the Gospels we see eyewitness account but we see it from different angles and perspectives, it is

not just the same exact story being copied or all the false witnesses coming up with the same story. The fact that the Gospels have different angles and perspectives actually gives it more credibility when thought about from the angle of a court case. This brought some perspective to what we have been studying in class because a lot of what we have been doing is examining and comparing the gospel texts.

One of the other parts that I found fascinating is when they began to talk about how the prophecy fulfilled in the old testament points to Jesus as the messiah. They went on to talk about Isaiah 53:5-6 and that was the part that struck a chord with me. I especially enjoyed when the professor talked about the friend who worked at the capital and took Isaiah 53:6 to all of the people he worked with without the scripture reference to show where it is found. He asked each and every one of them if they knew what this was talking about and where it was from and all of them said it was talking about Jesus of Nazareth and that it was found somewhere in the New Testament. What they didn't know is that this is a prophecy that was written eight centuries before Jesus was ever born. I thought this was a great point to show the reliability of the prophecies concerning Jesus and it also gives Lee more evidence that Jesus is the Messiah and that God is real! I liked it because it kind of allows others to unknowingly prove that the scripture has been fulfilled. I also remember the fact that Paul was able to point people to eyewitnesses of the resurrection of Jesus if they wouldn't believe him. He said essentially go talk to those who were there if you don't believe me, they are still alive. I thought this was another key piece in putting together evidence that Jesus is the Son of God.

Overall I enjoyed how this was pieced together but I think one of the key takeaways was that I need to continue studying deeper. I sometimes had the mindset that the deep stuff doesn't matter because it goes over the head of the average church goer but I think we still have a responsibility to minister to guys like Lee Strobel who are skeptics and need a whole lot of evidence. If we don't study deeply we will never be able to help people like Lee who are unable to believe without a bit of extra evidence. I feel more motivated today to study this kind of stuff in this Life of Christ class to be honest.