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Gundry, Short Essay #2

One of the aspects of Jesus' life that modern people tend to find unacceptable and/or unbelievable when compared to ancient people centers on the miracles He performed. The gospel writers reports that Jesus performed many miracles in the three plus years of his ministry; ranging from turning water into wine to raising the dead. Despite the various eye witness accounts, there are some that view these acts by Jesus as myths and/or outright fabrications.

Richard Carrier ("Carrier"), in his essay, *Kooks and Quacks of the Roman Empire: A Look into the World of the Gospels (1997)*, describes the ancient people as either "gullible or credulous or superstitious." Carrier continued by stating that "the age of Jesus was not an age of critical reflection and remarkable religious acumen. It was an era filled with con artists, gullible believers, martyrs without a cause, and reputed miracles of every variety. In light of this picture, the tales of the Gospels do not seem very remarkable."

In sum, some modern people find the accounts of the miracles performed by Jesus as unacceptable because they question credibility of the ancient people. I would counter by stating that it seems very unlikely that people would dare die to maintain a fabrication.