

On February 28, 2008 I flew back to (near) my home turf, Kansas City, Missouri where I debated Christian apologist Mike R. Licona on the topic, “Can Historians Prove that Jesus Rose from the Dead?” The event took place on at 7 p.m. held at the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. You can guess whose side the crowd was on!

Mike is one person I’ve debated over the years with whom I have a very good relationship. When we’re not going at it verbally, we get along well and have a chummy relationship. Even if each of us thinks the other is completely dead wrong about things — including the important topic of this debate.

The debate is discussed in the book “Come Let Us Reason: New Essays in Christian Apologetics” edited by Paul Copan, William Lane Craig. Chapter 9 is written by Michael Licona, which reviews this debate extensively from his perspective. I’ve never reflected on it from mine — but I do, of course, talk extensively about the issue (apart from this debate) in my book How Jesus Became God.

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