



**When Jesus was crucified, his followers were discouraged and depressed. So they dispersed. The « Jesus movement » was all but stopped in its tracks.**

**Then, after a short period of time, we see them abandoning their occupations, regathering, and committing themselves to spreading a very specific message — that Jesus Christ was the Messiah of God who died on a cross, returned to life, and was seen alive by them.**

**And they were willing to spend the rest of their lives proclaiming this, without any payoff from a human point of view.**

**They faced a life of hardship. They often went without food, slept exposed to the elements, were ridiculed, beaten, imprisoned. And finally, most of them were executed in torturous ways.**

**For what ? For good intentions ?**

**No, because they were convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt that they had seen Jesus Christ alive from the dead.**

**They knew, without any shadow of doubt, that He really was The One and only Son of God, who proved it by rising from the dead.**