

## Secular Cemetery Scoffing

“For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption.  
(Psalms 16:10, ESV)

A new documentary by director James Cameron (Titanic) on the Discovery Channel intends to show that the tomb of Jesus Christ and his family, including a wife and child, was located in 1980. Sadly, the Titanic director has sunk to a new low in pursuit of celebrity and mammon. Since this documentary subtly but rabidly attacks our faith, let us contend against it. (Jud. 1:3) Cameron presents as evidence two stone boxes, called ossuaries, dated to the first-century A.D. (or C.E., Christian Era). Cameron inductively reasons that these are the earthly remains of Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Even more astonishing, Cameron insists that another of the boxes must contain remains of the son of Jesus and Mary, since one box is clearly marked, "Judah son of Jesus." Not satisfied with the recent unveiling of the so-called "gospel of Judas" by National Geographic, and the blatant falsehoods presented as truth in the DaVinci Fiction, yet another entity has jumped on the bandwagon of modern Sadduceeism to discredit scripture. Serious investigation can only discredit the arguments of Cameron and the network that proposes stories fit for the pages of the National Enquirer. If Jesus's bones are on earth, then the scriptural promise that Christ would not see corruption is falsified: Who is telling the truth, God or James Cameron? The implications being this serious, let us consider why the current documentary's logic falls apart.

**1.** If you found a group of papers stamped "2007" with the names, "George, Laura, and Barbie, daughter of George," must I conclude that you have found papers belonging to the family of President Bush? Answer: No, they could belong to anyone with those names. **2.** The name in Hebrew/Aramaic translated "Jesus" could also mean "Joshua" or "Hosea." Why must we assume that the ossuary says "Jesus" when there is no contextual or archaeological necessity? **3.** If there were such a discovery of Jesus's physical remains, how did it escape the searching of 2,000 years of relic-searchers in the Middle East? In plain sight, no less? **4.** If Cameron's conclusions are sound, why do so many archaeologists reject and discredit them? **5.** Why wait 27 years to create a documentary when the original theory these scoffers preach was discredited back in 1980? Answer: The recent publicity raised by Brown and others will sell it. **6.** If Cameron's motives are not financial, why not give away all proceeds from the documentary to charity? **7.** Why does Cameron not use conclusive evidence to deductively prove his theory? Answer: Because he cannot. He supports his theory with low probability and not proof.

Let us consider and reject Cameron's theory and verify another indomitable doctrine of scripture: "Do not be deceived." (Deut. 11:16; Jer. 20:10; 1 Cor. 6:9, 15:33; Gal. 6:7; Jam. 1:16)