

Who Moved the Stone? by Frank Morison

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(1930)

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BACKGROUND NOTE (Wikipedia) - **Albert Henry Ross** (1 January 1881 – 14 September 1950^[1]), (pseudonym **Frank Morison**), was an English advertising agent and freelance writer known for writing the **Christian apologetics** book *Who Moved the Stone?* and *And Pilate Said.....* He is best known today for writing the book *Who Moved the Stone?*^[19] It was first published in 1930 in England by **Faber & Faber** and has been repeatedly reprinted (in 1944, 1955, 1958, 1962, 1977, 1981, 1983, 1987, 1996 and 2006)^[20] as well as translated into several languages.^[21] The book analyses biblical texts about the events related to the **crucifixion** and **resurrection** of **Jesus of Nazareth**. Ross was skeptical regarding the resurrection of **Jesus**, and set out to analyse the sources and to write a short paper entitled *Jesus – the Last Phase*^[19] **to demonstrate the apparent myth**.^[22] However, in compiling his notes, he came to be convinced of the truth of the resurrection, and set out his reasoning in the book. **T. S. Eliot**, a literary consultant and an editorial board member at Faber & Faber publishers, read the manuscript when it was submitted for publication. Eliot was enthusiastic about the text and recommended that Faber & Faber publish the book.^[23] The book was released in time for **Lent** in 1930 and Eliot passed complimentary copies for review to authors such as **G. K. Chesterton**.^[24] In Chesterton's review, he remarked that he picked the book up "under the impression that it was a detective story" and found that the case for the resurrection was "treated in such a logical and even legal manner."^[25]

Many people have become Christian after reading the book, and writers including **John Warwick Montgomery** and **Josh McDowell**, (ED: SEE [CHAPTER 7 "WHO WOULD DIE FOR A LIE? IN JOSH MCDOWELL'S "MORE THAT A CARPENTER"](#)) have used his book in their own discussions on the resurrection.^[26] **Dorothy L. Sayers** stated that she relied on Morison's discussion of the trial of Jesus while writing her play *The Man Born To Be King*.^[27] (ED: [SEE ONLINE COPY OF THIS WORK](#)) (Sayers had been Ross's colleague while she worked as an advertising copywriter at S. H. Benson in London from 1922 to 1931.)^[28]

After the release of *Who Moved the Stone*, the editor of the London newspaper *The Sphere* invited Ross to contribute articles to a religious column that were published from 1930 to 1934.^[29]

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