

Name:

Date:

Period:

## The Testimonium (Antiquities, Book XVIII: Chapter 3):

"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man; for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. He was [the] Christ. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him; for he appeared to them alive again the third day; as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day."

1. Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man

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P

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2. if it be lawful to call him a man

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3. for he was a doer of wonderful works

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4. a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure

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P

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5. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles

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6. He was [the] Christ

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7. And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him

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8. for he appeared to them alive again the third day

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9. as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him

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10. And the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this day

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Now rewrite the Testimonium, including only those phrases that you marked as "**A**uthentic."

1. To what extent, in your **educated** opinion, can Christians rely on the Testimonium as a valid source of information about Jesus?
  
2. Consider all of the phrases that you judged as Inauthentic, if any. What type of person might have written these phrases, and why?
  
3. Now consider your answer to #2 again. If you are right, are there any passages in the Testimonium that such a person probably would NOT have written (i.e. passages that we can be confident Josephus himself could have written)?