Debate over resurrection continues

Continued from page 5B did Judaism, which believed in bodily resurrection but as communal experience at the end of days. Nor did the Jews make resurrection part of their definition for the messiah, yet that's what the earliest Jewish Christians said regarding Jesus.

In the New Testament Gospels' depiction, the risen Jesus was no ghost, disembodied spirit or vision. Jesus did not have a merely resuscitated corpse but a body with

uncanny new properties, yet a physical body nonetheless. Wright says only one explanation suffices from all this and it's "rock solid". The discovery that Jesus' tomb was and it's "rock solid". The dis-covery that Jesus' tomb was empty, plus his various phys-ical appearances, provide the only plausible explanation for the rise of the early Christian faith as we know it. Since no other alternative is adequate, Wright concludes that the traditional Christian belief remains the truth, "however unlikely."

appointment because he doesn't attack Wright's challenge head-on, nor fully explain why he's skeptical. His basic why he's skeptical. His basic approach is that even if the empty tomb and appearances occurred as the New Testament reports (which he doubts in other writings), this would merely mean Jesus arose in the sense that God exalted him, not that his body was resurrected. Whether something literally happened isn't important, he thinks, but

of Jesus' ongoing presence Crossan asks whether those early Christians took the Resurrection literally or, as he sees it, as a spiritual

sees it, as a spiritual metaphor. "The honest answer must be, I do not have the faintest idea, nor does anyone else." Christian intellectuals have been debating this for the past 200 years, Crossan says, "and we have reached an impasse; nobody is persuading anyone else." It's a perfect-

it, the thing that matters is the message that God has begun a new kingdom and people can participate in a

In the back-and-forth that In the back-and-forth that-follows, Wright makes the helpful suggestion that the difference between them is not "literal" versus "metaphorical" resurrection but the New Testament's

"concrete" or bodily concept versus Crossan's "abstract" understanding. Crossan thinks the empty tomb is historically question-able and thus that Mark sim-ply "made up" this report and later Gospels picked up the don't think anyone could have made up these stories, actual-

Holy Ghost Boot Camp at Ramada Ltd.

Continued from page 5B and in Truth: Music in African American Worship." is taken from her 2004 book published by Westminster John Knox Press. Costen will trace the African roots of liturgical and musical practices up through contemporary music in worship.

The event is part of the Faith Seeking Understanding series of public lectures sponsored by Union-PSCE at Charlotte, the North Carolina campus of Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education. A reception and book sale will follow the lecture at the church. For more information, call Susan Hickok at (704) 337-2450.

Trinity Park's Annual Choir Celebration will be held at 4 p.m.

at 4 p.m.

st speaker for the event is the Rev Ernest Jeffries, pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church, Davidson. The church is located at 9115 TrinApril 27

April 27 Kingdom of God Christian Fellowship Ministries will host it sixth annual women's host it sixth annual women's conference through Saturday Services begin nightly at 7 p.m. with a Saturday morning seminar at 10 a.m. The free event will be held at 4837 South Tryon St. For more information call (704) 713-4869

4862.

April 29

Addie L. Robinson Ministries of Philadelphia will host a Holy Ghost Boot Camp Spiritual Warfare Conference at the Ramada Limited, located at 7900 Nations Ford Road at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. For more information call (215) 574-7888 or log on to www.addierobinson.com www.addierobinson.com May 6

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Seigle Avenue First Church
of God Girls in Action for Christ presents the first Mother and Daughter Lun-cheon, "Empowering Another Generation." The event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bette Rae Thomas Recreational Center, 2921 Tuck-aseegee Road. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. For more information, call (704) 537-4690.

True Way Church of God in Christ will host its annual Men's Conference through May 17.

May 17.
The church is located at 2931 James Road.

May 27 Tickets New 27 Nekets for JoyFest '06, a spel showcase of praise and

sorpel showcase of praise and song, are on sale.
The concert at the Paladium Amphitheatre at Paramound Carowind Amphitheatre at Paramount's Carowinds features Deitrick Haddon Also appearing are Tye Tribbett & Greater Anointing, Cross Movement and Separater

son Pass members are available through Ticketmaster by calling (704) 522-6500, by log-

ging on to www.ticketmas-ter coulet. Discounted tickets for groups of 15 or more, including a group picnic option, are available by call-ing Paramount's Carowinds at 1-800-888-4FUN (4886). All prices are slightly higher on the day of the events.

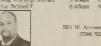
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