

Mark 16:9-14 – Jesus Proves his Resurrection for you!

TSK, GreekLexicon, Henry, Geneva, Poole, Gill, Calvin, Robertson, Vincent, Trapp, PNT, Lightfoot, JFB, Rienecker, Handfuls, Brink, Family Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ: Jesus appeared to at least 4 women who came to his tomb: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, Joanna, and Salome. They saw the empty tomb and met the angels who told them to go and spread that word of the resurrection to the disciples. But the Lord wanted to give indisputable proof of this resurrection, knowing the resurrection **proved who he was**, it **proved what he said he would do**, and it **proved man could be raised from the dead also!** You will hear about these indisputable proofs of Jesus' resurrection today.

Our headings are:

Jesus meets One woman –Mary-in the garden

Jesus meets Two Men and along the road

Jesus meets Eleven disciples in a house

Our goals are: That you will believe and **rejoice that Jesus was resurrected and so will you**, and that you will work to **spread the message of his resurrection** so the **world can have the hope of resurrection after this life.**

Jesus meets one Woman – Mary – in the garden

9 Now when He rose early on the first day of the week, **He appeared first to Mary Magdalene**, out of whom He had cast seven demons.

1. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome first went to the tomb and the angel told them to take the news of Christ's resurrection to the disciples so they could be encouraged, but Mary Magdalene, the woman from whom he had cast out 7 demons, (Luke 8:2) likely stayed back at the cemetery and Jesus appeared to her.

At first, Mary Magdalene thought Jesus was the gardener and she was convinced someone had stolen the Lord's body.

John 20:14 Now when she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing *there*, and did not know that it was Jesus. 15 Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?" She, **supposing Him to be the gardener**, said to Him, "Sir, if You have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away." 16 Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni!" (which is to say, Teacher).

But after talking to Jesus, Mary was convinced he was resurrected.

(Jesus **did not** appear to his mother Mary first as RC's claim. Jesus **did not** appear to the **other women first**, who only saw the angels! Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene first, likely honoring her because she was most thankful.)

The main point was this: Mary Magdalene had 100% proof Jesus was alive!

10 She went and told those who had been with Him, as **they mourned and**

wept.

2. Jesus then sent Mary Magdalene to tell his disciples, even while they were still in tears and in mourning, that he was raised.

John 10:18 Mary **Magdalene came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord,** and that He had spoken these things to her.

11 And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.

3. Sadly, the disciples doubted Jesus was alive, literally calling Mary Magdalene a liar.

They doubted the **words of the angels the 3 women** brought to them earlier and **now they doubted Mary Magdalene words from Jesus.** It is likely they partly rejected the women's testimony because they were women! In many eastern countries women's testimony is not regarded with high esteem. That partly true in Israel. Even today in Iran, in a legal dispute, a woman's testimony as a witness is worth half that of a man's.

4. Lessons:

a. Ignorance (and deliberate ignorance) can make a believer suffer. The disciples suffered because they did not remember what Jesus said before his death...and doubted what he said after...

Luke 18:31..."Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. 32 "For He will be **delivered to the Gentiles** and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. 33 "They will **scourge Him and kill Him.** And the **third day He will rise again.**"

If you don't remember what the Scripture teaches how will know if it is okay to marry a non-Christian, or what to say to someone who is pressuring to commit adultery, or if you want to want to lie about the age of a child to get a cheaper ticket?

b. It is true in modern science you are taught to be skeptical and to doubt, but when God speaks, doubting is not a mark of superiority. It is a mark of weakness. Take what God's Word says because he is holy and truthful.

c. Ignorance of the Scriptures is far more deadly for non-believers...especially ignorance about the resurrection! They will die in their sin, unless you tell them. They need faith...which comes through hearing the Word of God.

Hebrews 11:6 But **without faith it is impossible to please Him...**

d. Those who see the depths of their need (like Mary Magdalene) are more thankful and receive more rewards.

Jesus meets Two men along the road

12 After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country. 13 And they went and told it to the rest, but they did not believe them either.

1. After appearing to Mary Magdalene, Jesus then appeared to 2 other men on the road to Emmaus, Cleopas and the other likely was Luke (who only mentioned Cleopas).

(Only Luke gives the details of this account. This shows it was likely Luke with Cleopas. He didn't self-promote.)

By this time Jesus had put on rabbi's clothes.

Jesus' disciples were not honored seeing Jesus first because they had abandoned him, denied him, and ignored his instruction.

2. Jesus then started a conversation with these two men (who did not recognize him) talking about Jesus' crucifixion.

Luke 24:17 And He said to them, "What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?" 18 Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to Him, "Are You the only stranger in Jerusalem, and have You not known the things which happened there in these days?"

These men were disappointed Jesus had died because they were hoping Jesus would restore the kingdom of Israel.

Luke 24: 19 And He said to them, "What things?" So they said to Him, "The things concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a Prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20 "and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to be condemned to death, and crucified Him. 21 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, today is the third day since these things happened.

They knew Jesus was powerful in words and actions and they hoped he would restore the kingdom (in a physical way) and save the Jewish nation.

3. As part of their conversation, Jesus strongly rebuked them for not knowing their Bibles well.

Luke 24:25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 "Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

This is why the Jews have no excuse not to believe in Jesus today!

4. Because it was late in the evening the two men asked Jesus to go into their house and stay there for the night.

Luke 24:29 But they constrained Him, saying, "**Abide with us, for it is toward evening**, and the day is far spent." And He went in to stay with them.

And when they were about to eat, they asked Jesus to pray, knowing that he was a rabbi.

Luke 24:30 Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31 Then their **eyes were opened** and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight.

On the road the Lord had restricted their senses. Jesus wanted to go into their home, talk with them, and sit down to eat. They likely would have thought it was just a figment of their imagination if Jesus just appeared and disappeared along the road. But the whole interaction ensured they knew he was really alive! **This was 100 % proof Jesus was alive.**

5. Because they were 100% sure Jesus was alive, the two men went and told his disciples what they had seen and experienced.

Luke 24:33 So **they rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem**, and found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, 34 saying, "The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" 35 And they told about the things that had **happened on the road**, and how He was known to them in the **breaking of bread**.

Sadly, even with all these details, and now at the 5th and 6th witnesses (at least), the disciples still did not believe Jesus was raised. (Three witnesses should have been enough.) Christ had conquered death but the disciples were denying it and in so doing were **denying themselves the benefits of his resurrection**. Look how they responded to the first 3 female witnesses.

Luke 24:11 And their **words seemed to them like idle tales**, and they did not believe them.

6. Lessons:

a. Do you often go through the act of reading the Bible and listening to preaching but it doesn't really sink it? This was the problem here. So take warning. Let the words of God sink in. Ask for his Holy Spirit to work in you that the preaching might sink in and save you from falling into frustrations, false doctrines and uncertainty.

b. You might spread the message of Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection and a person might refuse to believe. Don't despair. They are not rejecting you. They are rejecting the Lord. It is not your fault or inadequacy. Some men and women are stubborn. **Persist in doing it and pray for the Holy Spirit to work in them.** Speak of the

resurrection clearly.

c. Those who reject your message will be condemned and that brings glory to God as well. So keep speaking!

Jesus Meets Eleven disciples in a house

14 Later He appeared to **the eleven** as they **sat at the table**; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen.

1. Christ, in mercy to these miserable doubters, proved he was 100% alive by miraculously appearing in their presence, even with a locked door.

(They are called “the eleven” because Judas was now dead, though Thomas was not with them.) What kindness! He even wished them peace!

John 20:19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, **when the doors were shut** where the **disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews**, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "**Peace be with you.**"

2. But as a good father, Christ, did not let them totally off the hook, but promptly rebuked their unbelief and stubbornness.

They had saving grace but **they needed to be corrected.**

3. Why was this rebuke so severe for doubting Christ's resurrection?

If Christ were not raised from the dead there would be no salvation...Christ would be a liar, and the testimony of the whole Bible would be a series of lies.

1Corinthians 15:13 But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen. 14 And if Christ is not risen, **then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty.**

4. Lessons:

a. Jesus words to Thomas especially were a stinging rebuke of his doubt:

John 20:29 Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. **Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.**"

So take Christ's words as true. He proved he was and what he could do. And because he lives, you can live!

b. Even Christians have moments of weakness and doubts. You have to work to eliminate those doubts so they don't deny you of your joy and disturb you from your duty. Read the accounts of the resurrection. Read of Christ's love and justice.

c. With no resurrection, you could simply be a selfish atheistic evolutionist pagan ...instead of living to serve others. But because there is a resurrection you will be raised up after death. Because there is a resurrection, you know you are owned by the Lord and you must live for him!

Conclusion:

Jesus proved, multiple times, beyond doubt that he was raised from the dead. The angels said so. He said he would be raised. He then physically appeared to many, went into their homes, and talked and ate with them!

Brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ:

1. Jesus, by his resurrection... “Abolished death and brought life and immortality...(2Tim 1:10) Because he lives forever you can live forever.

2. Rejoice! And the day will come when he will leave the right hand of his Father where he is today and come to take you to be with him in heaven forever. Oh happy day! Then you will rejoice in fullness.

3. So face your trials and hardships in this life with confidence. You will never be sick in heaven. Your children won't be in danger. Your husband won't be insensitive and lazy. There won't be any bad bosses there. You won't be lonely there.

4. And don't let the world die is loneliness and without hope of life after death. Tell them of the resurrection that they might believe and find hope in Jesus.

Finally, you may hope for heaven but you won't go there unless you have a right relationship with God. Your sins separate you from him. Christ will take away your sins, give you a clean record, adopt you as his child, and give you a new destination when you die, if you will only ask him in sincerity!