

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

AUGUST 4, 2021

MATTHEW 28.9,10

INTRODUCTION:

1. The women were told that Jesus is risen.
 - a) An angel appeared and said to the women that Jesus is risen. (Matt. 28.5-8)
 - b) Jesus appears to the women. (Matt. 28.9,10)
 - c) Mary Magdalene was told that Jesus is risen. (Mark 16.9,10; John 20.11-18)
2. How did the disciples react to the news that Jesus was risen?

I. THE REACTION OF THE DISCIPLES

- A. The disciples did not initially believe.
 1. **MARK 16.11:** *“And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.”*
 2. **LUKE 24.8-12:** *“And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them.”* Notice that Peter was not among those who did not believe. (v. 12).
- B. Peter and John went to investigate.
 1. After hearing the news, Peter and John ran to the tomb. (Luke 24.12; John 20.3-8)
 2. When John arrived at the tomb, he *“saw the linen clothes lying there; yet he did not go in.”* Saw (blepo): To see with the eyes. (John 20.5)
 3. When Peter arrived, he *“saw the linen clothes lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head.”* Saw (theoreo) to theorize. (John 20.6,7)
 4. When John entered the tomb, he *“saw and believed.”* Saw (oida): To know completely. He had figured it out.
- C. The two disciples did not initially believe.
 1. **MARK 16.12,13:** *“After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country.”*
 2. **LUKE 24.13-24:** As Jesus appeared to them on the road to Emmaus, they spoke displayed their lack of faith.
 - a) They were sad. (Luke 24.17)
 - b) Their hope had been shattered. (Luke 24.21)
 - c) Some reported the missing tomb, but they did not believe them. (Luke 24.22-24)
 3. **LUKE 24.25-32:** Jesus reveals Himself to these disciples.

II. HOW DID THEY COME TO BELIEVE?

- A. Jesus appeared to the disciples. (John 20.19-29)
 1. Jesus provided evidence that it was Him. (John 20.20)
 2. After He showed them His hands, *“then the disciples were glad”* (John 20.20)
 3. Doubting Thomas did not believe until he saw the evidence himself. (John 20.24-29)
- B. **JOHN 20.29:** *“Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”*
 1. We are never expected to have blind faith. (Ex. 4.1,9; John 5.33,36-39)
 2. We cannot physically see the body of Jesus nor can we touch His hands and side as did Thomas. What is the evidence produces faith in us? (John 20.30,31; Rom. 10.17)