

While They Still Disbelieved for Joy

Luke 24:1–12, 36–43

(black Bibles page 884; Children's Bibles page 1302)

“While they still disbelieved for joy...” – what does that mean? (24:41)

- Stunning, life-changing good news... but there's only one problem: *it's impossible!*
- Similar to the joy of old Sarah, finally having a baby (Genesis 21:6-7)

Seeing is *not* believing.

- We're seeing a ghost! (Luke 24:37)

Wait, perhaps seeing *is* believing. And touching.

- “Touch me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” (Luke 24:39)
- Meal time: “They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate before him.” (Luke 24:42–43)

When truly miraculous things happen, people often act strangely, *because they're acting 'normal' in an abnormal situation.*

- Peter on the Mount of Transfiguration. “Let us build three shelters...” (Luke 9:33)

- If you say the dead don't rise, and that doesn't happen in nature – you're exactly right. It *doesn't* happen. But there He is, risen.

When joy captivates the soul

- See the very end of Luke (24:52–53)
- Here's a one verse parable about joy: “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” (Matt 13:44)
 - What does the Resurrection have to do with the Kingdom of Heaven?
 - “Sells all that he has...”

Recommended Resources

“Wait, why would I believe this man Jesus actually rose from the dead 2000 years ago?” Good question!

- 5 minute video: “Did Jesus Rise from the Dead?” by Impact 360 Institute. A good introduction to the agreed-upon facts about the Resurrection (including from non-religious historians), with an exploration of the alternative explanations. Worth watching more than once! <https://goo.gl/c54qLq>
- 50 minute video: “New Evidences the Gospels were Based on Eyewitness Accounts,” by Dr. Peter Williams. Amazingly, there is compelling *new* evidence that the Bible's Gospels exhibit eyewitness quality. And it all started with a German scholar counting the frequency of ancient Jewish names... <https://goo.gl/h6VPSR>
- 50 minute video: “The Resurrection Evidence that Changed a Generation of Scholars,” by Professor Gary Habermas, who is the world's leading expert on Resurrection scholarship. Do you think perhaps Jesus' Resurrection was a legend developed in the decades after his death? Learn why historians know this isn't the case. <https://goo.gl/qLmNDm>