

Sermon Outline

NOBC

Responses to the Resurrection

04/24/2011

The most significant event in the history of man took place when Jesus arose from the dead. Since He had died on the cross to pay for all the sins of every man, His victory over Satan, sin and death was not complete until He arose victorious over death.

Even though He had spoken several times of how necessary it was for Him to die and then arise from the grave, such a thing had never happened before and, even though His disciples trusted in Him and believed the things He said, they could not understand how this could be true. Only after Jesus' resurrection from the grave did the disciples have any real understanding, and even then their full understanding did not come until He showed them His resurrected body.

Even then, and certainly in this day in which we live, there are many and varied responses to the resurrection of Jesus. Each person has the ability and the responsibility to decide how he or she will choose to respond to Jesus' resurrection. Millions of people have accepted the resurrection of Jesus as being true and have staked their eternal destiny upon His victory. For others, even many who have as much factual knowledge as those who have chosen to believe, many have decided not to trust in the resurrected Jesus as their Lord and Savior. For these there is also an eternal consequence. Which will you choose? Choose you must!

I. THE RESPONSE OF REJECTION AND HOSTILITY Mat. 27:62-66

II. THE RESPONSE OF THE DEAD Mat. 27:52-53

III. THE RESPONSE OF BELIEF John 20:1-11

The kind of *seeing* the facts that results in true belief ...

Many people say that they believe in Jesus, but does Jesus accept each person's belief and save him? Is it automatic that a person is saved and becomes a child of God when that person says he believes in Jesus? Jesus did refuse to accept the belief of some and rejected them. John 2:23-25

A. *Seeing As A Glance Produces No True Belief* John 20:5; John 9:39-41

John's first look, a glance, produced curiosity, but not belief.

B. *Seeing As A Spectator Produces No True Belief* John 20:6-7; John 9:8; 14:19

Seeing something as a spectator, observing the action or facts, does not result in belief that changes a life. Analysis of the facts is not the same as saving faith.

C. *Seeing, Joined To A Decision To Accept Truth, Produces Belief* John 20: 8-9

Hebrews 1 1:6; 2 Corinthians 5:5-7; 1 Corinthians 2:9-16; John 2:19-22

IV. THE RESPONSE OF THOSE SLOW TO BELIEVE Luke 24:13-26

Even sincere, godly people can miss out on the joy and peace that can result from the resurrection of Jesus if they do not accept and trust what God says in His Word. Some godly people stumble over what they cannot understand. The reality is that no man can understand the supernatural works of God.

V. THE RESPONSE OF JOY FOR THOSE WHO BELIEVE Luke 24:27-35

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Joshua 24:15

VI. THE RESPONSE OF BELIEF REJOICES IN JESUS' VICTORY Luke 24:36-53

VII. THE RESPONSE OF DEFEATED DEATH 1 Cor.15:50-58