

**Topic: The third day!****1 Corinthians 15:3 - 4 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

<sup>4</sup>And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

**He is RISEN!!!**

Q. "Did the Lord's own disciples believe in the promise of His resurrection?"

A. Apparently not!

Jesus' death shattered their hopes. Instead of remaining in Jerusalem until the third day, eagerly awaiting His resurrection:

1. They retired to their homes. (John 20:10)
2. Mary Magdalene shared the news of the resurrection to the disciples: they "believed not" (Mark 16:11).
3. Emmaus Road disciples: "neither believed they them" (Mark 16:13).
4. Testimony of eyewitnesses seemed to them as idle tales (Luke 24:11).
5. Disciples went back to work: **JOHN 21:3 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup>SIMON PETER SAID, "I'M GOING FISHING." "WE'LL COME, TOO," THEY ALL SAID. SO THEY WENT OUT IN THE BOAT, BUT THEY CAUGHT NOTHING ALL NIGHT.

*How can we account for the persistent unbelief of these disciples?*

- *Parable of the Sower = The enemy chokes out the "seed" that was sown!*
- *The disciples heard the Savior say He would raise up the temple of His body in 3 days, but instead of treasuring up this precious promise in their hearts, and being comforted by it, they had, through their unbelief, allowed the Devil to snatch it away.*
- *It was not until after He had risen that they "remembered" and "believed" the word which Jesus had said. And what was it that enabled them to "remember" it*

**JOHN 20:30** THE DISCIPLES SAW JESUS DO MANY OTHER MIRACULOUS SIGNS IN ADDITION TO THE ONES RECORDED IN THIS BOOK. <sup>31</sup>**BUT THESE ARE WRITTEN SO THAT YOU MAY CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT JESUS IS THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD, AND THAT BY BELIEVING IN HIM YOU WILL HAVE LIFE BY THE POWER OF HIS NAME.**

- What kind of faith did Peter and John have at that stage in their spiritual experience? They had faith based on evidence. They could see the graveclothes; they knew that the body of Jesus was not there. However, as good as evidence is to convince the mind, it can never change the life.

### John 2:22 - 25 (NASB)

<sup>22</sup>So when He was raised from the dead, His disciples remembered that He said this; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had spoken.

<sup>23</sup>Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing.

<sup>24</sup>But Jesus, on His part, was not entrusting Himself to them, for He knew all men,

<sup>25</sup>and because He did not need anyone to testify concerning man, for He Himself knew what was in man.

- Those of us who live centuries later cannot examine the evidence, for the material evidence (the tomb, the graveclothes) is no longer there for us to inspect. But we have the record in the Word of God (John 20:9) and that record is true (John 19:35; 21:24).
- In fact, it is faith *in the Word* that the Lord really wanted to cultivate in His disciples (see John 2:22; 12:16; 14:26). Peter made it clear that the Word of God, not personal experiences, should be the basis for our faith (1 Peter 1:12-21).

### John 12:16 (NASB)

<sup>16</sup>These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him.

- The disciples had only the Old Testament Scriptures, so that is what is referred to in John 20:9. The early church used the Old Testament to prove to both Jews and Gentiles that Jesus is the Christ, that He died for sinners, and that He arose again (Acts 9:22; 13:16ff; 17:1-4; etc.).
- The Gospel includes “and that He arose again the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Cor. 15:4). What Scriptures did Paul and John have in mind?

### John 20:8 - 10 (NASB)

<sup>8</sup>So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed.

<sup>9</sup>For as yet they did not understand the Scripture that He must rise again from the dead.

<sup>10</sup>So the disciples went away again to their own homes.

**Monday Morning Moment:** Action Step – He’s alive. He is risen! If we believe, we will receive!

**Psalms 106:13 - 15 (KJV)**<sup>13</sup> They soon forgot his works; they waited not for his counsel:<sup>14</sup> But lusted exceedingly in the wilderness, and tempted God in the desert.<sup>15</sup> And he gave them their request; but sent leanness into their soul. “**Leanness**” = weakness, disease (*physically and spiritually*)