

Eyewitnesses of Jesus' Resurrection

April 12, 2009 Luke 24:36-53

Introduction

Why is Jesus' resurrection so important? It's why we can be forgiven for the guilt of our sin, freed from the power of sin, and brought back into relationship with God as our loving Father.

But many people don't believe Jesus rose from the dead. Many think Christians have no evidence for believing Jesus rose from the dead.

But that's not what we see in Luke 24:35-53,

How did the disciples respond to Jesus' resurrection? (36-38)

They were startled. Frightened. Thought they saw a spirit.

They were troubled with doubts in their hearts.

How does Jesus persuade them to believe in His resurrection? (38-43)

Jesus shows them his hands and feet (38-40)

Jesus eats broiled fish in front of them (41-43)

Jesus intentionally gives them all the evidence they need to believe in His resurrection, so they can give us this same evidence in their preaching and writing.

What does Jesus' resurrection mean for us? (44-53)

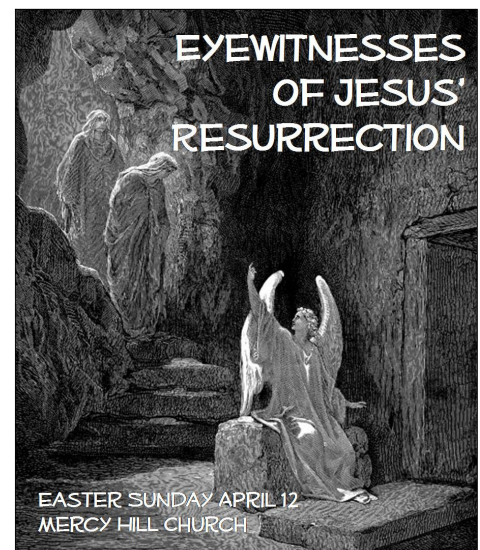
Jesus' resurrection confirms Jesus as the Messiah (44-46)

Jesus' resurrection calls us to repent and be forgiven (45-47)

Jesus' resurrection urges us to proclaim Jesus to the nations by God's power (47-49)

Jesus' resurrection means He is alive today continually blessing those who trust Him (50-51)

Jesus' resurrection compels us to worship Him with great joy (52-53)



HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING

Read Luke 24:36-53.

What difference has Sunday's teaching made in your life so far this week?

Should faith need evidence? Why or why not? Why does Jesus give the disciples so much evidence?

Are you convinced Jesus rose from the dead? What doubts have you had? How do you think Jesus will respond to those doubts (maybe in the same way he responded to the disciples' doubts?)?

Which of the five implications of Jesus' resurrection do you need to hear the most? Which do you like the most? Why? Which do you like the least? Why?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

