

Weekly Study Guide

4/14/24 - Evidence of the Resurrection

Read the following Bible verses:

“After his passion, Jesus presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.” –Acts 1:3

“Whom we have heard and seen. We saw him with our own eyes and touched him with our own hands.” –1 John 1:1

“He was not seen by all the people, but by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.” –Acts 10:41

“He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people.” –Acts 13:29-31

While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?” They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence. –Luke 24:36-43

Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” –John 20:27

Questions:

1. What stands out to you the most from the verses above? What do they have in common? Are there any words that stand out to you?
2. Why is it significant to note that Jesus rose bodily? What difference does it make?
3. What is one big takeaway from all of this? How can we apply this to our lives? Are there any actions we should take?

Support: Acts 1:3, 1 John 1:0, Acts 10:41, Acts 13:29-31, Luke 24:36-43, John 20:27, Matt. 27:66, Mark 16:4, Luke 24:3, Luke 24:12, Matt. 28:4, Matthew 28:11-15, John 20:27

For later: Prayerfully ask yourself the following questions...

Do you believe that Jesus lived, died, was buried, and raised to life in history? Do you accept that Jesus' resurrection was a physical, bodily resurrection? How does this impact your life every day? Are there any areas of your faith that you struggle to accept or believe? Is there any area of your life that you need to surrender to God, receive forgiveness, commit to the Lord, experience God's grace and love, assurance of salvation, eternal life, or healing?

Extra:

1. Roman Seal - "So they went and made the tomb secure by putting a seal on the stone and posting the guard" (Matt. 27:66).
2. Large Stone Moved - "When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away" (Mark 16:4).
3. The Empty Tomb - "But when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus" (Luke 24:3)
4. Graveclothes - "Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened" (Luke 24:12).
5. Roman Guard - "The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men" (Matt. 28:4). "While the women were on their way, some of the guards went into the city and reported to the chief priests everything that had happened. When the chief priests had met with the elders and devised a plan, they gave the soldiers a large sum of money, telling them, "You are to say, 'His disciples came during the night and stole him away while we were asleep.' If this report gets to the governor, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble." So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day" (Matthew 28:11-15).
6. Appearance Confirmed - Numerous and varied (John 20:27)