

**John 20:19-31**  
Pastor Jim Thomas  
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**SERMON NOTES**

**Resurrection Day 2021**



*“Resurrection power works best in graveyards.”*  
- Ray Stedman

**Evidence for the Resurrection:**

1. The medical evidence
2. The empty tomb
3. The hundreds of eyewitnesses
4. The transformation of the disciples
5. The wildfire-like spread of Christianity

**The Post-Resurrection Appearances:**

- |                                    |               |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Mary Magdalene                  | John 20:11    |
| 2. The other women                 | Matt. 28:9-10 |
| 3. Peter                           | Luke 24:34    |
| 4. Disciples on the road to Emmaus | Luke 24:13-32 |
| 5. Ten apostles                    | Luke 24:33-49 |
| 6. Thomas and the other apostles   | John 20:26-30 |

7. Seven apostles	John 21
8. All the apostles	Matt. 28:16-20
9. All the apostles	Acts 1:4-9
10. 500 people	1 Cor. 15:6
11. James	1 Cor. 15:7
12. Paul	1 Cor. 15:7

*“No other explanations have been offered, in two thousand years of sneering skepticism... that can satisfactorily account for how the tomb came to be empty, how the disciples came to see Jesus, and how their lives and worldviews were transformed.”*

- N.T. Wright, *Surprised by the Scriptures*

### **John 20:19-31**

#### **What difference does the Resurrection make?**

1. Once bound by fear, now bold in faith (v. 19)
2. Once despairing, now rejoicing (v. 20)
3. Once confused and uncertain, now comforted and courageous (v. 21)
4. Once without hope in this life, now given abundant life in His name (v. 31)

*“The cross of Christ is not primarily a metaphor. It involved an actual death. The resurrection is not primarily an allegory. It was a physical event: a ‘standing up again’ of a body that had died.”*

- John Lennox, *Seven Days that Divide the World*

*“We cannot undo grief. Yet we can cling to hope that an omnipotent God has the power not only to keep us alive in memory but to resurrect us to a new and permanent state. ‘God weeps with us so that we may one day laugh with him,’ says the theologian Jürgen Moltmann. The Lazarus and Easter events do not solve the problem of suffering, but they do point forward to a solution.”*

- Philip Yancey

*“Resurrection means that the worst thing is never the last thing.”*

- Frederick Buechner

*“The resurrection of Christ brings the future power of God—that will some day heal and renew the entire world—into our lives now. Christians have a realistic and irrepressible hope. It is not a naive, utopian expectation of paradise today, but a hope for our lives and our society that we can participate in the fullness of paradise yet to come.”*

- Timothy Keller, *Hope in Times of Fear*