

April 15, 2020

How do we know Jesus truly rose from the dead ? The gospel writers tell us that there were witnesses who saw and spoke with the risen Jesus. The gospels also tell us that, at first, the disciples could not, or would not, believe that Jesus was truly alive, that He had truly risen. Jesus appeared to Mary of Magdala and she told the disciples that she had seen the Lord, but they doubted. Jesus appeared to a group of his disciples who were gathered together in a locked room. At that time, one of the disciples, Thomas, was not with them. They told Thomas they had seen the Lord, but Thomas doubted. “Unless I touch the wounds in his hands and side, I will not believe,” said Thomas to the other disciples. The next time Jesus appeared to his disciples Thomas was with them. Upon seeing Jesus and touching the wounds in His hands and side Thomas exclaimed, “My Lord and my God!” and he came to believe that Jesus truly rose from the dead.

We did not see Jesus as did Mary of Magdala and the disciples, and many others; and yet, we believe in the risen Jesus. Blessed are we who have not seen and yet believe !

Please read the following scripture passages in your bibles:

Mark 16 : 9-13

Luke 24 : 13-35

John 20 : 19-29

Happy are we who recognize Jesus in the breaking and sharing of the bread, in the Eucharist, which we celebrate at every Mass.

Homework : Please read chapter 22 in your textbook and take special note of the Beatitudes, the *beautiful attitudes* that Jesus tells us to have in order to live as His followers and inherit the Kingdom of Heaven

Consider this: Jesus announced the arrival of the Kingdom of God and for three years went about teaching the people, curing them of illness, and performing many signs and wonders among them. How can we continue this work of Jesus ? How can we proclaim the Kingdom of God ?

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