

The Miracles of Jesus

Lesson Forty-Two

The Appearances of Jesus after His Resurrection

Introduction:

1. Following His resurrection and before His ascension, Jesus appeared several times to His disciples.
2. Some of these appearances involved miraculous manifestations.
3. Thus, they contain important evidence and teaching about Jesus and His resurrection.

I. The Miracle

- A. FIRST APPEARANCE – *To Mary Magdalene* (Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18)
 1. Jesus arose from the dead on the first day of the week (John 20:1).
 2. After reporting the words of the angel to the disciples, Mary returned to the tomb.
 3. There, Jesus spoke to her – called her by name.
 4. Though at first, she did not recognize Him, she came to understand that it was Jesus who was speaking to her.
 5. Jesus said, “Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father.”
 - a. The word “touch” literally means, “to attach one’s self to; to cling to or adhere to.” (Cf. 1 John 5:18)
 - b. Thus, Jesus did not mean that He could not be touched – for, some did touch Him after His resurrection (Matthew 28:9; John 20:27).
 - c. Instead, she was not to cling to Him, for He would ascend to the Father.
 6. Then, He commanded her to deliver this message to His brethren.
- B. SECOND APPEARANCE – *To the women* (Matthew 28:9-10)
 1. Jesus greeted the women and they fell at His feet and worshipped Him.
 2. Jesus instructed them also to deliver a message to His brethren.
- C. THIRD APPEARANCE – *To Peter* (Luke 24:12, 34; 1 Corinthians 15:5)
 1. The Bible does not record any of the details of this appearance.
 2. Peter went to the tomb, seemingly alone, for a second time.
 3. Following this, the record states that the Lord had appeared to Peter.
- D. FOURTH APPEARANCE – *To two disciples* (Luke 24:13-35; Mark 16:12-13)
 1. They preached Jesus to Jesus!
 2. Then, Jesus preached to them from the Scriptures.
- E. FIFTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles, except Thomas* (John 20:19-25; Luke 24:36-43; Mark 16:14)
- F. SIXTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles, with Thomas* (John 20:26-29)
 1. This appearance occurred on the following Sunday.
 2. Jesus proved His resurrection and His deity to Thomas and the others.
- G. SEVENTH APPEARANCE – *To seven apostles at the Sea of Galilee* (John 21:1-14)

- H. EIGHTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles on a mountain in Galilee* (Matthew 28:16-21; Mark 16:15-18; Luke 24:44-49; Acts 1:1-5)
 - 1. The passages in Luke and Acts may refer to another appearance of Jesus.
 - 2. There, they were told to wait in Jerusalem, not Galilee.
- I. NINTH APPEARANCE – *To 500 disciples at once* (1 Corinthians 15:6)
- J. TENTH APPEARANCE – *To James* (1 Corinthians 15:7)
- K. ELEVENTH APPEARANCE – *To the apostles at His ascension* (Luke 24:50-51; Ac. 1:1-12)
- L. TWELFTH APPEARANCE – *To Saul (Paul) on the road to Damascus* (Acts 9; 22; 26)