

EASTER - VIEWS OF THE RESURRECTION

A. An emotional view - Peter

1. Before the resurrection, Matthew 26:69-75, *Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A servant-girl came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." When he went out to the porch, another servant-girl saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.*
2. After the resurrection, Acts 4:7-12, *When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."*
3. Peter went from fear to courage.
4. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

B. An intellectual view - Two Disciples

1. Before the resurrection, Luke 24:25-26, *Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?"*
2. After the resurrection, Luke 24:32-34, *They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!"*
3. The two disciples went from knowledge to wisdom.
4. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

C. A physical view - Simeon

1. Before the resurrection, Luke 2:29-30, *Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation,*
2. After the resurrection, Matthew 27:52-53, *The tombs also were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised. After his resurrection they came out of the tombs and entered the holy city and appeared to many.*
3. Simeon went from vision to experience.
4. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

D. A spiritual view - Thomas

1. Before the resurrection, John 20:24-25, *But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."*
2. After the resurrection, John 20:28, *Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"*
3. Thomas went from disbelief to worship.
4. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

E. A personal view - Every Believer

1. Before the resurrection, John 3:3, *Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."*
2. After the resurrection, 1 Peter 1:3, *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,*
3. Christians go from death to life
4. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!