

DOES IT SEEM LIKE NONSENSE TO YOU?

by Tony Melton

After the Hebrew women went to the tomb where Jesus was buried, they explained to the apostles that the body of Jesus was no longer in the tomb. The Bible says that the apostles “did not believe the women, because their words seemed to them like nonsense” (Luke 24:11 NIV). To some folks today, the idea of the resurrection of Jesus seems like nonsense or nothing more than “idle tales.” This is not surprising since even people who walked with Jesus, talked with Him, and saw the miracles He did thought His resurrection was nonsense. The apostle Thomas, for example, saw Jesus raise Lazarus from the dead, yet he did not believe that Jesus, himself, had risen from the dead (John 11:16,17; 20:25). The resurrection seemed like nonsense to Thomas; how does it seem to you?

Did you know that if Jesus had not come out of that tomb, then everything one does in the name of Christianity would be futile and meaningless? The Bible says: “If Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty and your faith is also empty And if Christ is not risen, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins!” (1 Corinthians 15:14, 17). Notice three indispensable points that depend on the truth of the resurrection of Christ:

1. **“Our preaching is empty”** The apostle Paul based the validity of the New Testament on the resurrection of Christ. The teaching of the New Testament is nothing more than lies if Jesus remained in the grave.
2. **“Your faith is vain”** -- Here, the apostle places the resurrection of Christ as a foundational doctrine of Christianity. How can anyone trust and have faith in a dead savior?
3. **“You are still in your sins”** It was not enough for Jesus to die only, but He also had to be resurrected to free man from sin’s bondage. Are you still living in sin today? What have the death and resurrection of Jesus accomplished for you personally? Are you convinced in your heart that God has raised Jesus from the dead? (Romans 10:9, 10). Have you put to death the sin in your life by repentance? (Acts 17:10). Have you been buried with Christ in baptism and resurrected to walk in newness of life? (Romans 6:3-5).

Please, do not consider the resurrection of Jesus as nonsense. Do not be a “doubting Thomas.” Jesus told him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 21:29).