

BEYOND THE WALLS OF THIS WORLD

JOHN 20:1-8 | ERIC SIMPSON | APRIL 4, 2021

Resurrection of Jesus...

How can we be so sure?

1. The written accounts of Jesus' life are dated in the lifetime of the eyewitnesses.

Matthew 28:15

So the soldiers took the money and did as they were instructed. And this story has been widely circulated among the Jews to this very day.

"Jesus and the Eyewitnesses" by Richard Bauckham

2. **The Jews were deeply skeptical that any human being could rise from the dead.**

John 20:1-2

¹Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ²So she came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved...

Matthew 28:17

When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted.

3. **The dramatic change in the lives of the early disciples.**

What difference does it make in our lives?

1. **He will be with us in our present reality.**

Matthew 28:20

Surely I am with you always...

2. **He will be with us in the end.**

Matthew 28:20

And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.

"Life is hard.

You are not that important.

Your life is not about you.

You are not in control.

You are going to die." – Richard Rohr

"In the turn, we get a piercing glimpse of joy beyond the walls of this world as poignant as grief." – J.R.R. Tolkien

Anything is possible when you believe in resurrection.