

Risen And Alive- Jesus Appears To The Disciples

When Jesus appears to the disciples, they are terrified and frightened! How would you react if someone who had recently passed was suddenly standing in front of you?

Shane is a regular contributor to our Christian internet radio station, [HopeStreamRadio](#) through his program entitled "[Wisdom for Fools](#)". Shane Johnson has been commended from Bethel-Park Bible Chapel since 1999. He resides in Brantford, Ontario with his wife Shelly and his five children. He has his Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a minor in History. His passions are teaching children, inspiring young people, writing, music and playing soccer.

Jesus Appears To The Disciples On The Road To Emmaus

"...and He vanished from their sight" Luke 24:31

The glorious, risen and living Lord Jesus Christ – what a marvel it must have been to see and touch and hear Him! In [Luke 24](#) we read that while the disciples on the road to Emmaus gazed upon Him He vanished from their sight. Conversely, while the eleven sat cowering in the upper room, the doors being shut, He suddenly appeared in the midst. No longer bound by a mere physical body, the Lord Jesus freely passed in and out of space, as often as He wished. He who once walked on water was now passing through walls and appearing out of thin air!

Just imagine the situation for a moment: Did He slowly fade from their sight, like a dissipating fog, or did He disappear in an instant in the blink of an eye? And while He was vanishing, could His disciples pass their hands through Him, hologram-like, or was He body semi-pliable like Jello as He passed through the dimensions. These things are fascinating to think about.

Jesus Is Alive And Real

The [Apostle John](#) started his letter with the following words: ***"that which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life," we declare to you*** ([1 John 1:1](#)). John insists that the living Lord from the dead was not a ghost, nor a vision. He was alive again and He was real, real to the touch, and real to our sight.

To prove He was alive, and that He was not a spirit, the Lord Jesus Himself invited the disciples to observe and touch His body. Luke's account of this event bears repeating in full:

"Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "Peace to you. But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have. When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. But while they still did not believe for joy, and marveled, He said to them, "Have you any food here? So they gave Him a piece of a broiled fish and some honeycomb. He took it and ate it in their presence" (Luke 24:36-43).

Jesus Appears To The Disciples And Proves He Is Alive

The Lord Jesus appeared out of nowhere to His disciples. When He did so, it terrified and disoriented them. Never before had they seen an apparition, or what they thought was an apparition. Not to mention they had thought their Lord and Master was dead. But there He was standing in the middle of the room. Anticipating their shock and disbelief, the Lord Jesus began to appeal to all their senses in order to prove Himself real to them.

To satisfy their eyes, He invited them to study and observe Him. To satisfy their minds, He commanded them to handle and touch Him, to feel His warm flesh and squeeze His hard bones. And to prove to them that He was none other than their risen Lord from the dead, He showed them His hands and feet.

To picture the scene, in 1601 the Italian painter **Carravaggio** captured the moment when “doubting Thomas” finally saw the Lord Jesus with his own eyes. In that painting you can see him, along with the other dumbfounded disciples, he bent down with intent and amazement as he traced with his fingers the outline of His scars. In that painting it is the hand of the Lord Jesus that guides the finger of Thomas into the hole in His side. Without words, we hear Jesus saying, **“Do not be unbelieving but believing”** (**John 20:27**).

Risen And Alive Forevermore

The body of the Lord Jesus had indeed been brought back to life, He had been raised from the dead, and He has been transformed into glory. Never before had someone possessed these powers and used them. No wonder the disciples could hardly believe their eyes. They simply had no categories in which to process them. No former experience to compare them with. Nevertheless it was true: the Lord had risen from the dead and was alive forevermore.

***Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him
who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.***

***Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed over the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing,
who died, and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.***

***Crown him the Lord of love,
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.***

Shane Johnson

You can listen to podcasts from Shane Johnson’s show, “Wisdom for Fools” [here](#)

Contact Info

If you have enjoyed reading this post and wish to send us a comment or share a prayer request, please don’t hesitate to [contact us](#) and let us know.

Images Courtesy of:

Palm- [maxlkt](#)

Cobblestones- [real_napster](#)

Supper At Emmaus- [Matthias Stom](#)

Supper At Emmaus- Caravaggio

Crown- talpeanu