

As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, how many of us hold some doubt about this amazing story? According to St. Matthew, even the disciples, when they saw the risen Lord, “they worshipped Him, but some doubted.” It’s such a little phrase --“but some doubted”-- yet there it is.

Why the doubt? After all, didn’t Christ perform many signs of divine power? Didn’t He open the eyes of the blind? Didn’t He feed the multitudes in the wilderness? Didn’t He forgive the sins of even the most wretched? Didn’t He raise the dead? How is it that the people closest to Jesus would doubt His resurrection, especially when He was standing right there?

Well, there are different kinds of doubt. On the one hand, there is a very natural doubt that we experience when things are beyond the usual. The more unusual, the more doubt we feel, and the more proof we demand before believing.

For example, we sometimes experience difficulty accepting certain terrible things. How many times have we heard people grieving at the sudden loss of a loved one say, “I still can’t believe she’s gone.” Other times, news is simply too good to accept immediately, such as the sudden return of a beloved serviceman from overseas.

A different kind of doubt altogether is one that refuses to believe no matter what the evidence. This kind of doubt says, “I don’t care how much proof you give me, I will not believe you.”

It’s the kind of doubt some Israelites had when Jesus came – they wouldn’t accept Him no matter the evidence.

For others, they had waited so long for the Messiah it was hard to accept that He had finally arrived.

For some, the idea of a beaten and crucified Savior was too difficult to bear. Despite the evidence of the Old Testament Scriptures, they simply rejected such a thing outright.

For most of us, the idea of the resurrection of the dead is the highest dream of the human spirit, and therefore the most difficult to believe. If this Jesus is not a fraud, I want evidence!

Where does that leave us? The news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ is all around. If you’ve never heard this news, visit to your local church this Sunday and ask what it’s all about. If you *have* heard of the resurrection but still have some lingering doubt, be comforted: you’re not alone. Even our Lord’s closest friends doubted.

To this day, many people have doubts about marvelous things. But don’t let your doubt be stubborn. If you really want to know, ask. Ask those around you who have faith. Ask that quiet voice in your heart. And ask God directly. If you really want to know, God will answer.

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