

Resurrection Wonder

April 16, 2006

"The question inherent in all of these challenges to the original story and original cast is this: How could anything like the resurrection be true?" Cal Thomas

There is one very wild event in the Christian faith that is the linchpin. Destroy this event and you will bring Christianity crumbling to its knees.

"Our four Gospel writers all complete their narrations of the gospel of Jesus with a story or stories of Jesus' resurrection. They come at it from different directions and provide different details, but one element is common to each of them: a sense of wonder, astonishment, surprise." Eugene Peterson

Reverence and Intimacy

Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Matthew 28:9

Astonishment and Wonder

Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid. Mark 16:8

However, Peter ran to the tomb to look. Stooping, he peered in and saw the empty linen wrappings; and then he went back home again, wondering what had happened. Luke 24:12

Observations:

- Jesus' Resurrection came as a total surprise.
- Even in his Resurrection, Jesus is at work in life's margins.
- The Resurrection of Christ took place in relative obscurity and quiet.
- Gripping fear is the common experience in the lives of Resurrection witnesses.

Living Resurrection Wonder

"We have seen the Lord," he replied, "I won't believe it unless I see the nail wounds in his hands—and put my fingers into them—and place my hand into his side...." Then Jesus told him, "You believe because you have seen me. But blessed are those who haven't seen me and believe anyway." John 20:25, 29

We cover our deep ignorance with words, but we are ashamed to wonder; we are afraid to whisper "mystery." AW Tozer

Resources

Living the Resurrection by Eugene Peterson

Dangerous Wonder by Michael Yaconelli

The Jesus I Never Knew by Philip Yancey

The Case for Easter by Lee Strobel