

**Valley Bible Church
Sermon Notes for April 24, 2011**

**Why Should We Believe the Resurrection
Testimony of the Disciples?
John 20:1-28**

Why should we consider the disciples of Christ to be credible witnesses of the resurrection?

We should consider the disciples to be credible witnesses, because they, not anticipating the resurrection, were not inclined to believe in the resurrection when it occurred.

It is clear from Mark 9:30-32 that the disciples not only failed to understand what Christ meant when He prophesied His death and resurrection, but it is also clear they did not want to understand.

We should consider the disciples to be credible witnesses, because they, not anticipating the resurrection, had to be persuaded of the resurrection (Mark 16:9-11 cf. John 20:19-21, 26-28).

Because the disciples were not anticipating the resurrection of Christ, the initial eyewitness report made to them by Mary Magdalene failed to persuade them and was therefore rejected (Mark 16:11).

The disciples, not anticipating the resurrection, had to be persuaded, but they were not persuaded until they saw Him, heard Him, and were invited to inspect His wounds (John 20:20,28).

We should consider the disciples to be credible witnesses of the resurrection, because they would never have been willing to suffer what they suffered in proclaiming the gospel unless they had been fully persuaded that the resurrection was a fact.

May we by God's grace know beyond all doubt that Christ has triumphed over death, making it possible for those who place their faith in Him to be born again to a living hope.