

# Jesus First Appeared To The Eleven On A Mountain In Galilee

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Jesus First Appeared to the Eleven Disciples in a Room at Jerusalem (Lk. 24:33, 36-37; Jn. 20:19).

Jesus First Appeared to the Eleven on a Mountain in Galilee (Mt. 28:16-17).

As each of the gospel writers commented on different aspects of Christ's ministry, their accounts are not identical. However, they are complementary and when examined collectively the picture of Christ's life and work becomes more complete. By applying the principle of examining and comparing numerous scriptures in order to better understand God's truth (Isa. 28:10, 13), it will become clear that no contradiction exists regarding Christ's activities following his resurrection.

Matthew recorded that Christ met with his disciples in Galilee following his resurrection from the dead,

Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, to the mountain which Jesus had appointed for them (Mt. 28:16; cf. Mt. 26:32; NKJV used throughout unless otherwise noted).

The eleven disciples were reminded by one of God's angels to meet Christ in Galilee,

And go quickly and tell his (Christ's) disciples that he has risen from the dead, and indeed he is risen from the dead, and indeed he is going before you into Galilee; there you will see him. Behold, I (one of God's angels) have told you (Mt. 28:7; Ed. notes in parentheses).

John's account omits the journey that the disciples made to Galilee after Mary relayed the angel's message early in the morning,

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week (Sunday on most secular calendars today), when the doors were shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, 'Peace be with you' (Jn. 20:19; Ed. note in parenthesis).

By combining Matthew's and John's accounts, Christ's disciples traveled early Sunday morning to meet with Christ at a mountain in Galilee. After this meeting, they went back to Jerusalem where Christ met them in the evening. Therefore, the eleven disciples had seen Christ twice on that same day. After Christ met with the eleven disciples in Galilee and before he saw them again that same evening, he spent time with Cleopas and his wife Mary (cf. Jn. 19:25),

And he (Christ) said to them, 'What kind of conversation is this that you have with one another as you walk and are sad?' <sup>18</sup> Then the one whose name was Cleopas answered and said to him, 'Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem and have you not known the things which happened there in these days?' (Lk. 24:17-18; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Now it came to pass, as he (Christ) sat at the table (toward the evening; cf. Lk. 24:29) with them (Cleopas and Mary), that he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened and they knew him; and he vanished from their sight (Lk. 24:30-31; Ed. notes in parentheses).

So they (Cleopas and Mary) rose up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven (disciples) and those who were gathered together (perhaps 500 followers; cf. 1Cor. 15:6) (Lk. 24:33; Ed. notes in parentheses).

In conclusion, neither Luke 24: 33-37 or John 20:19 state that Christ first appeared to the eleven disciples in Jerusalem. By comparing all the accounts of Christ's activities on the first day of the week, Sunday, following his resurrection which occurred late on Saturday (see study: Christ Was But Two Days And Two Nights In The Grave), it is clear that he met with his disciples in Galilee prior to spending time with Cleopas and Mary. Then late on Sunday, Christ met again with the disciples a second time and there were other followers present.

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor.11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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