

Beyond a Shadow of a Doubt

Matthew 28:1-10

We say we believe in the resurrection of Jesus, and we rarely ponder or _____ the resurrection's factuality. Most American adults say they believe, yet only about _____ of those rarely if ever attend church or do anything that resembles following Jesus. They say they believe, but in fact, probably only as a part of the _____. They believe in the resurrection with their _____, not with their _____.

Matt. 28:1-10 says the empty tomb of Jesus was first discovered by 2 women, Mary Magdalene and another Mary. They went to the tomb to provide the appropriate _____ and care for Jesus' body which had been delayed due to _____. That these 2 women took on this responsibility is a testament to their _____ for Him.

They found the tomb _____, and the body of Jesus _____. An angel told them He was risen and to go tell the disciples. But something unexpected happened. Jesus _____ before they reached the disciples. They immediately believed the resurrection because they _____ the Risen Lord.

It was their deep love for Him that must have inspired Him to want them to have a _____ about His resurrection and what that would mean for their lives. **John 14:21** says, "Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who _____ will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them AND _____ TO THEM." So, the proof we need comes when we really _____.

This is the Biblical word, "agape," that refers to a _____, a commitment, not feelings. Do you love Him? Does it show in your life so that you choose regularly, consistently to _____ Him by _____ and _____ His will? If so, Jesus will _____ Himself to you—in your inner being—that He is _____. He is risen.

Do you want to believe beyond a shadow of a doubt in the resurrection of Jesus? _____ to begin to love Him by what you do, the way you _____, and watch the _____ _____!