



The Notes

RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD Part 2: “*The Life & Death of Belief & Doubt*”

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I MAY NEVER BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS, IF...

1. ...I WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I'M NOT _____ TO
_____.

“Leaving that region they traveled through Galilee where he tried to avoid all publicity in order to spend more time with his disciples, teaching them. He would say to them, “I, the Messiah, am going to be betrayed and killed and three days later I will return to life again.” But they didn’t understand and were afraid to ask him what he meant.”

Mark 9:30-32 (TLB)

“From that time Jesus began telling his followers that he must go to Jerusalem. He explained that the older Jewish leaders, the leading priests, and the teachers of the law would make him suffer many things. And he told his followers that he must be killed. Then, on the third day, he would be raised from death. Peter took Jesus away from the other followers to talk to him alone. He began to criticize him. He said, ‘God save you from those sufferings, Lord! That will never happen to you!’”

Matthew 16:21-22 (ERV)

2. ...I WON'T BELIEVE THAT THE _____ HAS NOW BECOME _____.

“It was early on Sunday morning when Jesus came back to life, and the first person who saw him was Mary Magdalene —the woman from whom he had cast out seven demons. She found the disciples wet-eyed with grief and exclaimed that she had seen Jesus, and he was alive! But they didn't believe her! Later that day he appeared to two who were walking from Jerusalem into the country, but they didn't recognize him at first because he had changed his appearance. When they finally realized who he was, they rushed back to Jerusalem to tell the others, but no one believed them.”

Mark 16:9-13 (TLB)

3. ...I WON'T BELIEVE WHAT I CAN'T _____ WITH MY _____.

“Then the two from Emmaus told their story of how Jesus had appeared to them as they were walking along the road and how they had recognized him as he was breaking the bread. And just as they were telling about it, Jesus himself was suddenly standing there among them, and greeted them. But the whole group was terribly frightened, thinking they were seeing a ghost! ‘Why are you frightened?’ he asked. ‘Why do you doubt that it is really I? Look at my hands! Look at my feet! You can see that it is I, myself! Touch me and make sure that I am not a ghost! For ghosts don't have bodies, as you see that I do!’ As he spoke, he held out his hands for them to see the marks of the nails, and showed them the wounds in his feet. Still they stood there undecided, filled with joy and doubt. Then he asked them, ‘Do

you have anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he ate it as they watched!”
Luke 24:35-43 (TLB)

“Thomas (called Didymus) was one of the twelve, but he was not with the other followers when Jesus came. They told him, ‘We saw the Lord.’ Thomas said, ‘That’s hard to believe. I will have to see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side. Only then will I believe it.’ A week later the followers were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them. He said, ‘Peace be with you!’ Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand here in my side. Stop doubting and believe.’ Thomas said to Jesus, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him, ‘You believe because you see me. Great blessings belong to the people who believe without seeing me!”
John 20:24-29 (ERV)