

## **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

### **Luke 24:46-48**

*and Jesus said to them, "Thus it is written,*

**that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead,**

**and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.**

*You are witnesses of these things.*

Back in 2016 the U.S. Dietary Guidelines gave us a green light to eat eggs.

I don't know about you, but I love eggs. In fact, six days a week my breakfast consists of an omelet made with 2 eggs, mushrooms and a sprinkling of cheese. Add in my daily mug of coffee and it's my favorite meal of the day.

But now the Wall Street Journal reports that the latest, most extensive research ever done on the subject says that eating eggs is probably going to give me heart disease.

**Apparently, the Experts were wrong!**

**JUST GREAT!**

How long have you been told that you eat too much salt and it's going to kill you?

Dr. of Pharmacy and Cardiovascular Research Scientist James DiNicolantonio in his book ***The Salt Fix*** shows that many of us eat too little salt and how eating the right amount of this essential mineral will help you beat sugar cravings, achieve weight loss, improve athletic performance, and thrive with a healthy heart.

## **Apparently, the Experts were wrong!**

Back in 1932, Albert Einstein said,

***“There is not the slightest indication that nuclear energy will ever be obtainable. It would mean that the atom would have to be shattered at will.”***

In 1962, Decca Recording Company declined to sign the Beatles saying,

***“We don’t like their sound, and guitar music is on the way out.”***

A Western Union internal memo of 1876 said,

***“This telephone has too many shortcomings to be seriously considered as a means of communication. The device is inherently of no value to us.”***

Thomas Watson, chairman of IBM in 1943 said,

***“I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.”***

IBM again in 1959 said to the eventual founders of Xerox,

***“The world potential market for copying machines is 5,000 at most.”***

Oxford professor Erasmus Wilson said in 1878,

***“When the Paris Exhibition closes, electric light will close with it and no more will be heard of it.”***

A Boeing engineer, after the first flight of the 247, a twin-engine plane that holds ten people said,

***“There will never be a bigger plane built.”***

Darryl Zanuck of 20th Century Fox, said in 1946,

***“Television won’t last because people will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night.”***

In 2000, Dr. David Viner, a senior research scientist at the climatic research unit of the University of East Anglia wrote-

***“within a few years winter snowfall will become “a very rare and exciting event”. “Children just aren’t going to know what snow is!”***

**Apparently, the Experts were wrong!**

***Remember that the Titanic was built by experts and the Ark by amateurs!***

Did you know that about two-thirds of the findings published in top medical journals are refuted within just a few years? Even worse, there’s a one-in-12 chance that a doctor’s diagnosis will be so wrong that it causes the patient harm.

Having just filed your tax returns, you might want to know that professionally prepared returns are more likely to have serious errors than self-prepared returns.

Fifty percent of all newspaper articles have at least one incorrect fact.

And the studies published in economic journals? Economists say they’re all likely to be wrong. **All of them.**

**Apparently, the Experts are wrong!**

David Freedman has included these shocking discoveries in a book called ***Wrong: Why Experts Keep Failing Us — And How to Know When Not to Trust Them.*** He encourages us all to be smarter about how we search for advice and to ask tough questions of people who claim to be experts.

**Ah, but since he has written this book, does that make him an expert?**

So, who were the experts of Jerusalem, back on that first Easter Sunday?

The chief priests, the Pharisees, Pontius Pilate, Jesus' disciples?

**Did they get it right?**

**The Hebrew experts figured Jesus wasn't the Messiah and engineered his death.**

**The Romans figured that crucifying Jesus would make the problem go away.**

**Jesus' disciples proclaimed that they would never abandon him.**

**The Experts were wrong!**

**Who got it right on that 1<sup>st</sup> Easter morning?**

It was the women who got up early and went to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for burial. ***1<sup>st</sup> century women were not considered experts! In Jewish law, women's testimony was not recognized.***

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary aren't experts but after gazing into the tomb and seeing its amazing, unexpected emptiness, the women hear the angel say, **"Go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.'"**

So, they leave the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and run to tell the disciples.

That the message of the resurrection was first entrusted to women is regarded by Scripture scholars as one of the strongest proofs of the historicity of the

resurrection accounts. Had accounts of Jesus' resurrection been fabricated, women would never have been included as witnesses.

And how about the other eyewitnesses, the guards?

***Guards were grunts, not experts.***

Matthew tells us that some of them go into Jerusalem and tell the chief priests everything that has happened. The priests conspire with the elders to pay off the soldiers with a large sum of money. In exchange for the cash, they are to tell everyone that Jesus' disciples came by night and stole his body away, while they were asleep. So, the guards take the money and run, doing as they are directed.

In Matthew, two groups of nonexperts make reports on the resurrection — a group of women and a group of guards.

- The women take their message to the disciples, and it spreads throughout the world.
- The guards deliver their report to the chief priests, and it hits a dead end.

But notice that in both cases, ***the truth isn't discovered by experts.*** Instead, it's embraced by nonexperts who have a personal experience of the resurrection.

On a flight to Florida, an educational psychologist was preparing her notes for one of the parent-education seminars she conducts across the nation.

The elderly woman sitting next to her explained that she was returning to Miami after having spent two weeks visiting her six children, 18 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren in Boston.

Then she inquired what her seat companion did for a living.

The psychologist told her, fully expecting to be pestered with questions and free professional advice.

Instead, the elderly woman sat back, picked up a magazine and said, ***“If there’s anything you want to know, just ask me.”***

There are three independent truths concerning the resurrection of Jesus that are accepted even by those who do not believe that the Bible is God’s Word:

1. The tomb in which Jesus was buried was discovered empty.
2. Jesus' disciples had real experiences with one whom they believed was the risen Christ.
3. As a result of the preaching of these disciples, which had the resurrection at its center, the Christian church was established and grew.

Nearly 2,000 years have come and gone, and the very same is true today.

1. The tomb is still empty!
2. People all over the world have personal faith experiences with their Creator and Savior.
3. The Christian Church exists throughout the entire world!

***Christ is risen, just as the women and the guards reported.***

**The nonexperts were right.**

Barbara Lundblad, recalls growing up on a dairy farm in Iowa, when it was illegal to sell margarine tinted yellow to look like butter.

Without food coloring added, margarine is as white as lard.

One could buy margarine in a white lump in a plastic bag that also contained a bright red-orange pellet of coloring, then knead that into the lump to make the color more appetizing.

She wrote,

“My dad barred oleo from our house, but Grandma Lundblad dared to buy a package now and then. Sometimes when I was staying with her, she let me squeeze the bag. I’d press my fingers into the bright red-orange dot until it broke open inside the bag. Then I’d keep squeezing until that bright spot of color spread throughout the whole lump, turning it into beautiful yellow almost-butter.”

Lundblad wonders:

“Could Easter be like that? The bright light of resurrection didn’t stay in the tomb. That light-giving light didn’t stay in one place but spread to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary.

**‘Jesus is not here,’ the angel told them.**

**‘Jesus is going ahead of you to Galilee.’**

The resurrection light transformed them and overcame whatever fear was in their hearts. The women ran from the tomb with resurrection in their hearts. They couldn’t keep the news to themselves.

***You can put truth in a grave, but it won’t stay there.***

***So, let all God’s children sing...***

Oh, you can’t keep Jesus’ love in a box, love in a box, love in a box.

Oh, you can’t keep Jesus’ love in a box, ‘cause his love’ll come abubblin’ through.

Oh, you can't keep Jesus' love in a jar, love in a jar, love in a jar.

Oh, you can't keep Jesus' love in a jar 'cause his love'll come abubblin' through.

Oh, you can't keep Jesus shut in the grave, shut in the grave, shut in the grave.

Oh, you can't keep Jesus shut in the grave 'cause he rose again on Easter Day!

So I'll just keep Jesus' love in my heart, love in my heart, love in my heart.

So I'll just keep Jesus' love in my heart so his love'll come abubblin' through.

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