

# The Resurrection Appearances in Order

Order	Appearance	Location	Did Jesus Speak?	Date and Time	References
1.	Mary Magdalene crying by the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mk 16:9-11; Jn 20:11-18
2.	The other women returning from the tomb	Jerusalem	Yes	Early morning on Sunday	Mt 28:8-10
3.	Cleopas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus	Near Emmaus	Yes	Afternoon on Sunday	Mk 16:12-13; Lk 24:13-32
4.	Peter in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	N/A	Late afternoon on Sunday	Lk 24:33-35; 1 Cor 15:5a
5.	To the "11" disciples and others in Jerusalem	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Lk 24:36-49 <sup>1</sup>
6.	To 10 disciples without Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Evening on Sunday	Jn 20:19-25
7.	To the 11 disciples with Thomas	Jerusalem	Yes	Monday (8 days later)	Mk 16:14; Jn 20:26-29
8.	To 7 disciples by the Lake of Galilee	Galilee	Yes	A few weeks later?	Jn 21:1-25 <sup>2</sup>
9.	To 11 disciples on a Mountain (Great Commission)	Galilee	Yes	Near the end of the 40 days	Mt 28:16-20; Mk 16:15-18; 1 Cor 15:5b
10.	To 500 people at once	Galilee?	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:6
11.	To James	Jerusalem?	N/A	Near the end of the 40 days	1 Cor 15:7a
12.	To the 11 disciples at Jesus' Ascension	Bethany	Yes	40 <sup>th</sup> Day	Mk 16:19; Lk 24:50-52; Acts 1:4-11; 1 Cor 15:7b
13.	To Paul on the road to Damascus	Near Damascus	Yes	About two years later	Acts 9:3-5; 22:7-8; 26:14-16; 1 Cor 15:8

<sup>1</sup> Luke 24:33 tells us that he appeared to the "Eleven and those with them."

<sup>2</sup> John 21:14 states: "This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead." This seems to contradict the chronological order that I have proposed in this chart. There are four responses to this: 1. My chart is wrong and it is actually the third time Jesus appeared to His disciples. 2. One way to solve the problem is to see

---

this verse as only talking about Jesus' third appearance to His apostles. It is actually His eighth appearance, but only the third appearance to a His inner group of eleven. This is based on the plural "disciples." However, this has another problem because it would actually be the fourth appearance not the third. So there must be another proposal that appearance number 5 and 6 are to be considered one and the same because they are focused on Thomas. Number 7 is the second appearance and number 8 is the third appearance. 3. The third possibility must also concur with the fact that John is only talking about the inner apostles and not the other appearances. It would then understand John as only talking about the appearances in his Gospel. The first one would be number 5 without Thomas, the second one would be number 6 with Thomas present and the third one would be number 7 under discussion. 4. The fourth possibility would also concur with John referring only to the inner apostles. It would then combine appearance number 5 and number 6 into the same account. This seem like an easy fix since the discussion in both accounts is about Jesus nail prints. However, the problem arises when you read the context of Luke and it mentions "the Eleven and those with them" (John 21:24). When you compare that to the fact that John says that Jesus appeared to His disciples but "Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them," it gets difficult to reconcile these accounts. Luke says there was eleven and John says in essence there were only ten. One answer to this is the phrase "the eleven" is not a technical phrase meaning exactly "11" disciples. It may be a phrase that is representative of the majority of disciples gathered in one place. For example, right in the verse quoted above (John 21:24) the phrase "the twelve" is used, however there were only eleven at the time. John is using a common phrase without exact precision, which is a literary way to say "the majority of the inner apostles of Jesus." In the like manner, Luke 24:33 is using the phrase "the eleven" in the same literary way, but in all actuality there were only "ten" of the inner apostles present.