

RUSSELL SANDERS
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SEEING IS BELIEVING?

We have often heard the sayings: "Seeing is believing." Missouri is the "show me" state." "I won't believe it unless I see it with my own eyes."

We see this in the response of the disciples in Luke 24. The ladies went to Jesus' tomb that was empty because he had risen. This was confirmed by an angel. The ladies believed the report. They reported this to the eleven apostles and others gathered with them, but nobody believed them. Peter ran to the tomb, found it empty, but still did not believe it because he did not see Jesus.

Two believers were walking on the road to Emmaus when Jesus joined them. They only recognized who He was as they sat at supper. They immediately returned to Jerusalem to report they had actually seen Jesus. The disciples did not believe them.

While these two witnesses were still with the rest, Jesus, Himself, appeared in the midst of the group. (Luke 24:36-45.) He said, "**Peace be unto you**" to them. They still did not believe, and were terrified, believing him to only be a ghost. He showed them the nail prints in His feet and hands. Still, they refused to believe.

It was only when He took food and ate it that they finally believed. They knew a ghost could not eat their food. It was this "seeing" which enabled them to believe. This was their "seeing is believing" moment. Later Jesus opened their understanding that they might understand the scripture.

It is not faith when you must "see to believe" with your physical eyes. It is faith when you "see to believe" with your spiritual eyes in the absence of physical sight.

Hebrews chapter eleven tells of many in the Old Testament who believed in God's promise of redemption by faith without ever having seen His redemption because the advent of Jesus was still hundreds of years away. Likewise, we today, believe upon Jesus with our spiritual eyes of faith and not by physical sight.

Their "seeing is believing" in the natural is a false premise when it comes to faith, otherwise we all would be hopelessly lost for eternity.

Our eyes of faith are affirmed through God's written word, by the Holy Spirit, by observed miracles, and by just believing God.