



An Idle Tale

SERMON NOTES
APRIL 20, 2025

*Easter Sunday at 8 AM
Scripture: Luke 24:1-12*

LUKE 24:1-12 (NRSV)

¹But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The first realization of Jesus' resurrection is the empty tomb. How do the women understand this bewildering experience with the "men in dazzling clothes"?

How are the men's words coupled with their remembrance of Jesus' promises taken as evidence of Jesus' resurrection?

Why do you think this seemed like an "idle tale" to the other disciples, even after Peter visits the empty tomb?