

And There He Was: The Impact of the Appearances of Jesus

To The Brother

John 7. 1-9

What would it take to believe your brother is the Messiah, the Lord, the Savior of the world?

7.1 After these things Jesus was walking in Galilee, for He was unwilling to walk in Judea because the Jews were seeking to kill Him.

2 Now the feast of the Jews, the Feast of Booths, was near. 3 Therefore His brothers said to Him, "Leave here and go into Judea, so that Your disciples also may see Your works which You are doing. 4 For no one does anything in secret when he himself seeks to be *known* publicly. If You do these things, show Yourself to the world."

5 For not even His brothers were believing in Him.

6 So Jesus *said to them, "My time is not yet here, but your time is always opportune.

7 The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify of it, that its deeds are evil.

8 Go up to the feast yourselves; I do not go up to this feast because My time has not yet fully come." 9 Having said these things to them, He stayed in Galilee.

James, at this time, is not a believer or follower of Jesus.

Seeing the resurrected Jesus, his brother, changed James.

NIV Acts 15.19

"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God.

You can grow up in church, believe what is true, celebrate faith, and still not be a legitimate, authentic follower of Jesus.

Like James, you've spent your whole life around Jesus, but you never trusted him.

At some point you must follow Jesus. Because people saw him alive, and it changed them.