

## Episode #1012 Easter 2024 1: Unbelief at the Tomb!

I. The death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ were the pivotal events in the history of God's work to redeem fallen mankind. All before these events was marked by man's failure in spite of all God did for them. After these events is marked by God's success in spite of all man can do against Him. Our salvation was granted to us by these great events.

II. The resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ is the most significant event in Scripture, for it proves His sacrifice was accepted by God, our sin is forgiven, and our own resurrection life in Him is guaranteed. Today we will consider that glorious resurrection.

III. Mark 16:1-8. The women at the tomb.

- A. Verse 1. When the Sabbath was past, how could they have bought spices and still had time to come early in the morning to anoint His body on Sunday? The marketplace did not open the instant the sun set on Saturday, but waited until the next day.
  1. The Lord died on Passover day. Mark 14:12,14,16. The day after Passover was the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which was always a Sabbath, no matter which day of the week it fell on. Numbers 28:16-18.
  2. The Sabbath after the Lord's death was not the weekly Sabbath, but this special, Feast Day Sabbath. This is confirmed by John 19:31.
  3. If this Holiday Sabbath was on Thursday, then the women bought spices on Friday after the Feast Sabbath was over. They rested on the weekly Sabbath, Luke 23:56. Then, they came Sunday morning to anoint His body.
  4. This means the Lord was three days and three nights in the tomb, just like He said! Matthew 12:40.
- B. Mary Magdalene, Mary "of James" (does not say mother, could be sister or wife), and Salome came to anoint Him. Done with expensive spices to honor the rich dead.
- C. Verse 2. "Very early in the morning the first day of the week" = Greek "extremely early (in the fourth watch, 3:00-6:00AM) one of the Sabbaths." Does this mean the Lord rose on Saturday, not on Sunday?
  1. That makes no sense, since the women faithfully rested on the Sabbath day, Luke 23:56. They would not have anointed His body on the Sabbath day!
  2. The explanation is the Feast of Weeks. This is based on the Feast of Firstfruits, Lev. 23:9-14. After this came the Feast of Weeks, Lev. 23:15-17.
  3. Firstfruits was always on the day after the Sabbath (Sunday). Then count from the day after Sabbath 50 days to the Feast of Weeks. This phrase "one of the Sabbaths" means the first of these days for counting the seven Sabbaths to the Feast of Weeks, and so does mean a Sunday.
- D. The Lord died on Passover, and was raised on Firstfruits! I Corinthians 15:20 tells us Christ is the firstfruits.
- E. Was the sun rising? John 20 says Mary came while it was still dark. Greek word *anatello* = up-ended.
- F. Verse 3. To protect a rich man's tomb from grave robbers, a large stone was carved out and run down a track to the cave mouth. It could take about ten men with the right equipment to move one of these stones. These women did not have a chance. Their grief probably means they are not thinking straight.
- G. Verses 4. The stone was already rolled away when they arrived! An angel did it, Matthew 28:2.

- H. Verse 5. Mary Magdalene probably ran off without entering in, John 20:2. This “young man” was an angel. White = dazzling or shining white. This frightened them! Notice this is different from Luke: a larger group of women saw two angels standing. Were these early bird women, getting there before the larger group?
- I. Verse 6. The angel urges them not to be afraid. He knows they seek Jesus of Nazareth, but He is risen, and not there. He urges them to view where He had been laid as proof.
- J. Verse 7. He gives them instructions to tell His disciples, especially Peter, that He is going into Galilee before them. They will see Him there, as He said to them. (John 16:16)
- K. Verse 8. They run away in fear and say nothing to anyone. They did not follow the angel’s instructions, so the disciples and Peter were not told the message. The Lord had to appear to them in Jerusalem first to instruct them Himself, then later in Galilee (John 21). In Luke the women did tell, so this is not the same story.

IV. Conclusion. The resurrection was a real, glorious event. It proved that the Lord, the Servant of the Lord of Mark, was really and truly the Master and Lord of all. Though even His followers found the fact that He had risen hard to believe, for us who believe, this gospel means salvation. Praise God for the resurrection!