

Episode #614 - Easter 2020 3: The Women and the Angels

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. Luke 24:1-8. The women at the tomb.

- A. Verse 1. The first day of the week = Greek "on the first of the Sabbaths." Yet the women rested on the Sabbath, Luke 23:56. What does this mean, then? I believe it is tied to the Feast of Weeks. Lev. 23:9-14 = Feast of Firstfruits. Lev. 23:15-17 = Feast of Weeks. Count from the day after Sabbath 50 days. This phrase means the first of these days, which was always a Sunday. The Lord died on Passover and rose on Firstfruits! Early = deep dawn. They brought spices prepared before the Sabbath.
- B. Verse 2. Isaiah 53:9. This stone would have been all but immovable. They were not thinking when they did not consider the problem of moving it!
- C. Verses 3-4. When they went in, the tomb was empty! Greek *aner*, No doubt these were angelic beings. "Shining garments" means they were flashing like lightning!
- D. Verse 5. There was no use seeking Him among the dead. Some still try this!
- E. Verses 6-8. These words were getting them to think. They saw Christ die on the cross, 23:49. Our faith hangs on this fact. They recall to them the words the Lord spoke before His death to call forth their faith. They finally realize the truth and believe!

IV. Luke 24:9-12. The women and the men.

- A. Verses 9-10. The eleven first hear of the resurrection. A large group of women reported this. Mary Magdalene had seen the Lord separately, John 20.
- B. Verse 11. For three days they were without hope, thinking that the Lord was not the Messiah after all. Now, they find the resurrection hard to believe. Their culture looked at the word of women as untrustworthy.
- C. Verse 12. Peter runs to the tomb. His second visit, John 20. No angels appear to him! Peter is very active in body, but not in faith!

V. Luke 24:13-35. Two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

- A. Verses 13-14. We are introduced to two unnamed disciples traveling together to Emmaus, talking of these things.
- B. Verses 15-16. They probably had sick hearts. They did not know Him because it was hidden from them. Thus it was not necessarily that He looked so different.
- C. Verse 17. This was much like the angels' question, asked to get them to think.
- D. Verse 18. Notice that Cleopas cannot believe anyone from Jerusalem would not have heard of these things! The Lord was obviously a very popular and well-known Rabbi.
- E. Verse 19. They thought the Lord was a prophet.
- F. Verse 20. Notice it was the chief priests and rulers who condemned Him.
- G. Verse 21. They hoped He was the Redeemer, but they think it was now proven not so. The third day meant to them past hope of resurrection. Little did they know the resurrected Lord was talking to them right then!

VI. Conclusion. The women came to the tomb on the morning of Firstfruits, only to find that the Lord had risen, the Firstfruits from among the dead! They reported this to the eleven and the rest, but they did not believe their testimony. Do we believe the true testimony of the Lord's resurrection? The two on the road to Emmaus met the Lord as they walked, but they did not know Him. They thought their hopes that He was the Redeemer were disappointed. They were soon to learn differently. Praise God for the resurrected Savior!