

A Study of Mark – Lesson 47

Mark 16:1-20 Surprise at the Tomb

16¹ When the Sabbath was over, / Mary Magdalene, / Mary the mother of James, / and Salome / bought spices / so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. / ² Very early / on the first day of the week, / just after sunrise, / they were on their way to the tomb / ³ and they asked each other, / “Who will roll the stone away / from the entrance of the tomb?”

⁴ But / when they looked up, / they saw that the stone, / which was very large, / had been rolled away. / ⁵ As they entered the tomb, / they saw a young man / dressed in a white robe / sitting on the right side, / and they were alarmed.

⁶ “Don't be alarmed,” / he said. / “You are looking for Jesus / the Nazarene, / who was crucified. / He has risen! / He is not here. / See the place / where they laid him. / ⁷ But go, / tell his disciples / and Peter, / ‘He is going ahead of you / into Galilee. / There you will see him, / just as he told you.’”

⁸ Trembling and bewildered, / the women went out / and fled from the tomb. / They said nothing to anyone, / because they were afraid.

Note: The earliest manuscripts and some other ancient witnesses do not have verses 9–20.

⁹ When Jesus rose / early on the first day of the week, / he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, / out of whom he had driven seven demons. / ¹⁰ She went and told those / who had been with

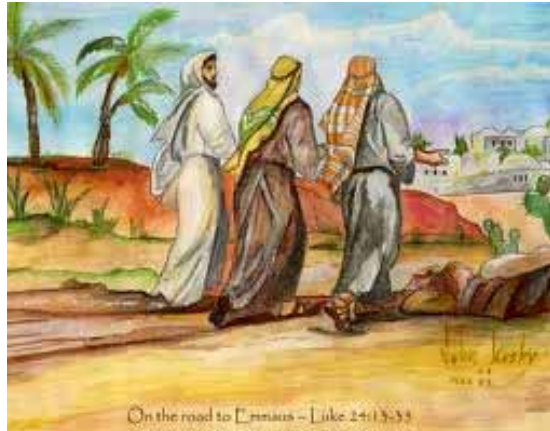
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him / and who were mourning and weeping. / ¹¹ When they heard that Jesus was alive / and that she had seen him, / they did not believe it.

¹² Afterward / Jesus appeared in a different form / to two of them / while they were walking in the country. / ¹³ These returned / and reported it to the rest; / but they did not believe them either.

¹⁴ Later / Jesus appeared to the Eleven / as they were eating; / he rebuked them / for their lack of faith / and their stubborn refusal to believe those / who had seen him / after he had risen.



¹⁵ He said to them, / “Go into all the world / and preach the gospel to all creation. / ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized / will be saved, / but whoever does not believe / will be condemned.

¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: / In my name they will drive out demons; / they will speak in new tongues; / ¹⁸ they will pick up snakes with their hands; / and when they drink deadly poison, / it will not hurt them at all; / they will place their hands on sick people, / and they will get well.” /

¹⁹ After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, / he was taken up into heaven / and he sat at the right hand of God. / ²⁰ Then the disciples went out / and preached everywhere, / and the Lord worked with them / and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

Vocabulary

1. **Anoint:** a. To rub oil or ointment on a part of somebody's body, usually the head or feet, as part of a religious ceremony, for example, in a Christian. b. To install somebody officially or ceremonially in a position or office
2. **Tremble:** a. To shake with slight movements, continuously and uncontrollably, for example, from fear, cold or anger. b. To shake or vibrate as a result of an external force. c. To be afraid or anxious about something
3. **Bewildered:** Extremely confused; puzzled
4. **Tomb:** Place to put a body. A burial chamber or a hardened enclosure.
5. **Alarmed:** Frightened
6. **Crucify:** A form of capital punishment and death.
7. **To flee, fled, fled:** To run away quickly.
8. **Manuscript:** Writing; book
9. **To mourn:** To have deep sadness, usually at a death or loss. 10:
Eleven: Jesus had twelve disciples; Judas betrayed him and killed himself, and that left eleven disciples.

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Questions

1. Why did the women wait from Friday afternoon until Sunday morning to anoint the body of Jesus?
2. Who went to the grave? Where were the men?
3. Why were they worried about the stone that sealed the doorway to the tomb?
4. Who was sitting inside the tomb? Why were they alarmed?
5. What instructions did the young man give the women?
6. Why would some people think this was an angel?
7. Why was Peter special to Jesus? Read Ch. 14:66-72
8. Verses 9-20 are not in the oldest manuscripts? Why not?
9. At first, did the disciples believe that Jesus was alive?
10. What did the guards report about Jesus and the tomb?

Notes

1. We celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday.
2. Tombs in the time of Jesus were generally carved out caves. The body was placed on a stone cut out of the sides of a cave. A wealthy family could have a burial place and all members of the family would be placed there.
3. The body of Jesus was placed in the tomb of Joseph of Aramathea. The body had to be placed in the tomb before sundown on the Jewish Sabbath, our Friday.