

**Luke 24:1 - 11 (KJV)**

<sup>1</sup>Now upon the first *day* of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain *others* with them.

<sup>2</sup>And they found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre.

<sup>3</sup>And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

<sup>4</sup>And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments:

<sup>5</sup>And as they were afraid, and bowed down *their* faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead?

<sup>6</sup>He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee,

<sup>7</sup>Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

<sup>8</sup>And they remembered his words,

<sup>9</sup>And returned from the sepulchre, and told all these things unto the eleven, and to all the rest.

<sup>10</sup>It was Mary Magdalene, and Joanna, and Mary *the mother* of James, and other *women that were* with them, which told these things unto the apostles.

<sup>11</sup>And their words seemed to them as idle tales, and they believed them not.

**LUKE 24:1 – 5;11 (NLT)**

<sup>1</sup>BUT VERY EARLY ON SUNDAY MORNING THE WOMEN WENT TO THE TOMB, TAKING THE SPICES THEY HAD PREPARED.

<sup>2</sup>THEY FOUND THAT THE STONE HAD BEEN ROLLED AWAY FROM THE ENTRANCE.

<sup>3</sup>SO THEY WENT IN, BUT THEY DIDN'T FIND THE BODY OF THE LORD JESUS.

<sup>4</sup>AS THEY STOOD THERE PUZZLED, TWO MEN SUDDENLY APPEARED TO THEM, CLOTHED IN DAZZLING ROBES.

<sup>5</sup>THE WOMEN WERE TERRIFIED AND BOWED WITH THEIR FACES TO THE GROUND. THEN THE MEN ASKED, "WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AMONG THE DEAD FOR SOMEONE WHO IS ALIVE?"

<sup>11</sup>BUT THE STORY SOUNDED LIKE NONSENSE TO THE MEN, SO THEY DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

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**A Heart to Serve**

Mary Magdalene had been especially helped by Jesus and was devoted to Him (Luke 8:2). She had lingered at the cross (Mark 15:47), and then she was first at the tomb. With her were Mary the mother of James; Joanna; and other devout women (Luke 24:10), hoping to finish preparing their Lord's body for burial.

- Keep in mind that these women did not expect to see Jesus alive.
- They had forgotten His resurrection promises and went to the tomb only to finish anointing His body.

Problems for the ladies:

1. Who would move the stone?
2. Why would the soldiers grant them access?
3. Would officials reverse the no-access decision and break the Roman seal?

How could they forget what Jesus had told them? More than once, Jesus had told His followers that He would suffer and die and be raised from the dead (Matt. 16:21; 17:22-23; 20:17-19; Luke 9:22, 44; 18:31-34). How sad it is when God's people forget His Word and live defeated lives. Today, the Holy Spirit assists us in remembering His Word (John 14:26).

**JOHN 14:26 (NLT)**

<sup>26</sup>BUT WHEN THE FATHER SENDS THE ADVOCATE AS MY REPRESENTATIVE—THAT IS, THE HOLY SPIRIT—HE WILL TEACH YOU EVERYTHING AND WILL REMIND YOU OF EVERYTHING I HAVE TOLD YOU.

## Evidence That Jesus Actually Died and Arose

This evidence demonstrates Jesus' uniqueness in history and proves that he is God's Son. No one else was able to predict his own resurrection and then accomplish it.

Proposed Explanations for Empty Tomb	Evidence against These Explanations	References
Jesus was only unconscious and later revived	A Roman soldier told Pilate that Jesus was dead. The Roman soldier did not break Jesus' legs because he had already died, and one of them pierced Jesus' side with a spear. Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus wrapped Jesus' body and placed it in the tomb.	Mark 15:44, 45  John 19:32-34  John 19:38-40
The women made a mistake and went to the wrong tomb.	Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph saw Jesus placed in the tomb.  On Sunday morning Peter and John also went to the same tomb.	Matthew 27:59-61 Mark 15:47 Luke 23:55  John 20:3-9
Unknown thieves stole Jesus' body	The tomb was sealed and guarded by Roman soldiers.	Matthew 27:65, 66
The disciples stole Jesus' body.	The disciples were ready to die for their faith. Stealing Jesus' body would have been admitting that their faith was meaningless	Acts 12:2
The religious leaders stole Jesus' body to produce it later.	If the religious leaders had taken Jesus' body, they would have produced it to stop the rumors of his resurrection	None

*Why are we still seeking life where there is only death?*

*Why are we seeking light where there is only darkness?*

*Why are we seeking joy where there is only confusion?*

*Why are we seeking hope where there is only despair?*

### 1 Corinthians 15:1 - 19 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup>Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand,

<sup>2</sup>by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>**For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the**

**Scriptures,**

<sup>4</sup>**and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,**

<sup>5</sup>and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

<sup>6</sup>After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time, most of whom remain until now, but some have fallen asleep;

<sup>7</sup>then He appeared to James, then to all the apostles;

<sup>8</sup>and last of all, as to one untimely born, He appeared to me also.

### Monday Morning Moment

*"Come and see, go and tell!" (4 verbs is the Easter mandate for the church)*

**Matthew 28:6 - 7 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup>He isn't here! He is risen from the dead, just as he said would happen. **Come, see** where his body was lying. <sup>7</sup>And now, **go quickly and tell** his disciples that he has risen from the dead, and he is going ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there. Remember what I have told you."