



STORY

7/17/03

The First Appearance of Our Living Lord after His Death - Matthew 28:1-15, Mark 16:1-11, Luke 24:1-12, John 20:1-18

TEACHER PRAYER

Dear Father in Heaven, bless my study of Your Word with the gift of Your Holy Spirit. Please guide and direct me to present the saving truths of this story in a direct and faithful manner to my students. I thank You for the assurance that Your word will never return to You void, but always accomplish Your good will. In Jesus' name. Amen.

VOCABULARY

MATTHEW:

Sabbath - With reference to the seventh day when God rested (ceased) from His creating work. The people of God were to observe the Sabbath Day (Saturday) as a day of rest, ceasing from their labors. The Third Commandment calls for the observance of that day. The Old Testament Sabbath was a shadow of things to come, but the body (making the shadow) is Christ's: Colossians 2:17. He is our Sabbath, for He brings us rest for our souls Matthew 11:28,29.

Countenance - Appearance, the "look" on a person's face.

Brethren - The brother-in-faith, spiritual family brothers.

Elders - Generally, an older person. Here, used with reference to the Jewish Old Testament officers known as the "Elders." For example, "rulers" of the synagogue and the "elders" of the people were one and the same.

Appease - To pacify, to quiet, to satisfy.

Make you secure - Keep you out of trouble, see to it that you will not be court-marshaled.

MARK

Anoint - To apply oil upon someone in a ceremonial manner, to dedicate someone to a special calling. Here, perfumed (spiced) oils were applied to the dead body to cover the odors of death and decay.

Demons - Used with reference to the fallen angels (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:7—9), ministers of the devil. Satan is called the prince of the demons (devils).

LUKE

Perplexed - Puzzled, full of doubts, confused.

Idle tales - Nonsense, gossip

OUTER AIM

To teach us to believe that Jesus, who died on Friday, appeared alive on Sunday as He had promised.

INNER AIM

To recognize God's hand in our lives: Jesus, who died to save us, arose from death as our living Savior.

BACKGROUND

(Rupprecht Bible History References Vol. 2, pp. 422-434)

We have heard how God sent His only Son, Jesus, to pay for our sins by His suffering and death. On the cross Jesus said, "It is finished!" The payment for our sin was completed by His death. But Jesus not only died for sin, but He was victorious over death. Today we learn about this victory as He showed Himself alive to some disciples on Easter morning.

The ransom for our souls was paid by Jesus through His suffering and death. As He promised, on the third day He arose from death. He was victorious over sin and death. Jesus lives, the victory's won! And because He lives, we also have life; life now, and life forever with Him in His heavenly Home.

S The Sabbath (no-work day) was over.

S At the "first light" of Sunday morning the women, who followed and ministered to Jesus with their material things, went to the tomb with "sweet spices" to embalm Jesus' body for burial.

S Mary of Magdala (Mary Magdalene) may have gone to the tomb before sunrise, for she found the tomb empty and hastened with her cry of sorrow to Peter and John, assuming that the body of Jesus had been stolen.

S During her absence from the tomb, the other women arrived and even entered into it.

S There they saw the two angels (Matthew and Mark refer to only one angel, the one who was the spokesman).

S The angel's message was: "He is not here, for He is risen.. .go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead.. .He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him!"

S Meanwhile Peter and John were hurrying to the tomb, followed by Mary.

S John arrived first and paused for a time outside the tomb, but when Peter arrived he went directly into it.

S John joined him to observe that the body of Jesus had not been stolen, for the tomb did not appear to have been burglarized.

S They silently pondered the discovery as they returned again to the city.

S Mary arrived at the tomb after Peter and John had left.

S She lingered there, weeping over what she believed to be her losses: first, the living Jesus; now, even His dead body.

S Once more, two angels appeared and addressed Mary: "Woman, why are you weeping?"

S Mary replied: "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

S She turned away as if to find the body of Jesus in another place and, suddenly, Jesus stood before her in His living presence.

S Tearful and sorely grieved, Mary did not recognize Jesus.

S She thought it was the gardener, so she begged information concerning the whereabouts of Jesus' body so she could take Him away.

S She again turned toward the tomb and now Jesus spoke to her: "Mary!"

S She immediately recognized His voice and with great relief uttered the comforting word: "My Lord!" (Rabboni, Aramaic; Rabbi, Hebrew.)

S We recall that Jesus had taught: "My sheep hear My voice...and they know me."

S Mary was the first to whom the risen and living Jesus revealed Himself.

S After that He met the other women who were returning to Jerusalem pondering the wondrous message of the angels.

S Jesus instructed them: "Rejoice! Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."

S We are told that while Mary's report caused Peter and John to run to the tomb, the other disciples considered the report from the other women to be astonishing, but utter nonsense.

S They did not even go to the tomb out of curiosity.

S The disciples isolated themselves in their room to agonize in their grief over the loss of their Master, Jesus.

S They forgot that He had told them that He would rise again on the third day and go before them into Galilee.

STUDENT PRAYER

Lower Level: Dear Jesus, You died for me that I may live. You live to lead me Home.
Teach me to follow You. Amen.

Upper Level: Lord, give me ears to hear Your word and a heart that believes Your word.
You died to save me, You live to lead me. Teach me to follow You. Amen.

PRESENTATION

Tell the story with the same emotion and excitement as if you were there. Tell the story in your words, but be faithful to the account that God recorded through the four evangelists.

APPLICATIONS

1. The ransom for our souls was paid by Jesus through His suffering and death. As He promised, on the third day He arose from death. He was victorious over sin and death. Jesus lives, the victory's won! And because He lives, we also have life; life now, and life forever with Him in His heavenly Home.
2. That is why we confess in the Apostles Creed: "I believe in the resurrection of the BODY". Our souls do not die and are not buried. When God takes us to Himself, He leaves our corrupted bodies on earth to return to dust. But on the last day our glorified bodies will be raised unto life with Him. This is our joy, our comfort, and our hope.

PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

Lower

John 14:19 - Jesus said: "Because I live, you will live also!"

Hymn 200, Stanza 1: I know that my Redeemer lives; What comfort that sweet sentence gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everliving Head.

Middle any of the above and...

John 11:26 - Whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Hymn 211, stanza 4: The power of death He broke in twain When He to life arose again. Hallelujah! To Him all praise be given!

Upper any of the above and...

John 11:25.26 - I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die.

Hymn 206, stanza 2: Jesus, my Redeemer lives; I too unto life shall waken. Endless joy my Savior gives; Shall my courage then be shaken? Shall I fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His members dead?