

The First Appearance of Our Lord

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-11; Luke 24:1-12; John 20:1-18

Have you ever made a promise that was hard to keep?

Perhaps someone depended on you keeping your promise.

What if ten people depended on the kept promise?

What if 100 people needed you to keep your promise?

Jesus had the entire human race depending on His promise to rise from the dead. Because He DID keep His promise, we believers can be assured that we, in glorified bodies, will be with Him in heaven.



Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven,

Bless our study of Your Word with the gift of Your Holy Spirit. May He guide and direct us in the study of His saving truths in this story. We thank you for the assurance that Your word will never return to You void, but always accomplish Your good will. In Jesus' name. Amen.

The First Appearance of Our Living Lord after His Death

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. And now, as the first day of the week began to dawn, while it was still dark, they came to see the tomb, bringing the spices which they had prepared.

And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone from the door of the tomb and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as

snow; and the guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other women came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door to the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away from the tomb, for it was very large.

When Mary Magdalene saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb, she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to



the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him."

The other women entered the tomb; but when they went in, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments, one young man clothed in a long white robe, sitting on the right side. And the women were alarmed and afraid and bowed their faces to the earth.

And the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid or alarmed; for I know that you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. Why do you seek the Living among the dead? He is not here, but He is risen, as He said. Behold, here is the place where they laid Him. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, "The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

And they remembered His words.

And he said to them, "But go quickly and tell His disciples and Peter that He is risen from the dead: and indeed, He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. Behold, I have told you."

So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb with fear and great joy, for they trembled and were amazed; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid. And they ran to report it to His disciples.

Peter therefore arose and went out, and the other disciple, and they ran to the tomb. So they both ran together; and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first; and he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. Stooping down and looking in, he saw the linen cloths lying

by themselves; and the handkerchief, that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also, and he saw, and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes, and Peter marveled to himself at what had happened.

Now when Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons. Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping; and, as she wept, she stooped down and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

Then they said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?"

She said to them, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him."

Now when she had said this, she turned around, and saw Jesus standing there, and did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you seeking?

She, supposing Him to be the gardener, said to Him, "Sir, if you have carried Him away, tell me where You have laid Him, and I will take Him away."

Jesus said to her, "Mary!"

She turned and said to Him, "Rabboni," which is to say, Teacher.

Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me; for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God.'"

Mary Magdalene came and told the disciples who had been with Him, as they mourned and wept, that she had seen the Lord, and He had spoken these things to her. And when they heard that He was alive and

had been seen by her, they did not believe.

And as the other women went to tell the disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, "Rejoice." So they came and held Him by the feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell My brethren to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me."

And they told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary, the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them.

Now while these women were going, behold, some of the guards came into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. When they had assembled with the elders and counseled together, they gave a large sum of money to the soldiers, saying, "Tell them, 'His disciples came at night and stole Him away while we slept.' And if this comes to the governor's ears, we will appease him and make you secure."

So they took the money and did as they were instructed; and this saying is commonly reported among the Jews until this day.

What the Story Tells Us - Fill in the blanks with the correct answers as found in the lesson.

1. Now when the Sabbath was past, _____, _____, and _____ brought spices to anoint Him.
2. Behold, there was a great _____.
3. The women said among themselves, "Who will _____?"
4. The angel answered, "Why do you seek _____?"
5. Then the other disciple went into the tomb also, and he saw _____.
6. Jesus said to her, " _____!" She turned and said to Him, " _____", which is to say, _____.
7. Then Jesus said to the women, "Do not be afraid; go and tell _____ and there they _____.
8. The elders gave a large sum of _____ to the soldiers for telling a lie.

Outer Aim - Jesus, who died on Friday, appeared alive on Sunday as He had promised.

What God Tells Us - Mark each as (T)true or (F)alse.

- _____1. We know that Jesus is alive because He appeared to Mary and the other women.
- _____2. We know that Jesus is alive because the Bible tells us so.
- _____3. Believers should always follow their reason.
- _____4. We can be certain that we will go to heaven, because we believe in a living Jesus.

Passages - Read each passage and tell how it applies to the story.

John 11:26 "And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"

Job 19:25 "For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth;"

John 14:19 "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also."

Inner Aim - Jesus, who died to save us, arose from death as our living Savior.

Hymn- TLH 206 v. 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?

This verse speaks directly to all Christians that are living today. It gives the Christian a question to answer. Do you know what the answer is?

Your Turn

On the last day our glorified body will be raised unto life with Jesus. Compare and contrast that glorious body with our corrupted bodies here on earth.

Prayer

Dear Jesus,

You died for me that I may live. You live to lead me Home. Teach me to follow You. Amen.