



He is Risen, Indeed!

**Matthew 28:1-20; Mark 16:1-18;
Luke 24:1-53; John 20:1-21; Acts 1:3;
1 Corinthians 15:5a**

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, **4** and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures

Sunday: A Day of Messianic Pronouncement

By means of the resurrection of Jesus, the Divine Pronouncement was made to all the world that this Jesus of Nazareth was exactly what He had claimed to be, indeed, that the very claims for which He had been crucified by the unbelieving Jews – the claims to be Messiah, God in the flesh, the only and sufficient Savior of mankind – were entirely and wonderfully true!

Romans 1:3-4

3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, **4** who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord

Bart Ehrman argues:

“Take the accounts of the resurrection. Who went to the tomb on the third day? Was it Mary alone or was it Mary with other women? If it was Mary with other women, how many other women were there, which ones were they, and what were their names? Was the stone rolled away before they got there or not? What did they see in the tomb? Did they see a man, did they see two men, or did they see an angel? It depends which account you read. What were they told to tell the disciples? Were the disciples supposed to stay in Jerusalem and see Jesus there or were they to go to Galilee and see Jesus there? Did the women tell anyone or not? It depends which Gospel you read. Did the disciples never leave Jerusalem or did they immediately leave Jerusalem and go to Galilee? All of these depend on which account you read. You have the same problems for all of the sources and all of our Gospels.”

At This Point

**I want to offer you a harmony
of these events that I have
constructed.**

**To truly understand the
events of this glorious
morning, we must rely on all
four Gospels.**



Early Sunday Morning

**The Women
Set Out For
The Tomb**

Matthew 28:2-4

2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. **3** And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. **4** The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

The Earthquake

- Evidently occurred before the women arrived at the tomb, perhaps even as they were on their way there.
- **Probably the only eyewitnesses to this work of the angel were the Roman soldiers who had been posted to prevent the disciples from stealing the body.**
- Those soldiers “shook for fear and became like dead men” when the angel arrived to fulfill his liberating task.

Remember that after Sundown

- The first day of the week began by Jewish reckoning.
- There is some discussion as to exactly when Jesus arose from the dead, but it was clearly on the first day of the week.
- Thus, Jesus' resurrection had already occurred when these women approached the tomb very early on Sunday morning.

These Faithful Women

- Were evidently bringing spices they had prepared (Luke 23:56) in order to show their devotion to Christ by anointing His corpse.
- This clearly indicates that they did not expect Jesus to rise from the dead.
- Spices were poured over a dead body to counteract the odor of decay and as a symbolic expression of loving devotion.

Found in All 4 Gospels

- **Matthew 28:1** – “Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.”
- **Mark 16:1-2** – “When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might come and anoint Him. Very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.”
- **Luke 24:1** – “But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared.”
- **John 20:1** – “Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene came early to the tomb, while it was still dark, and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb.”



Mark 16:3-4

3 They were saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance of the tomb?” **4** Looking up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away, although it was extremely large.

The Women See The Stone

- **Luke 24:2** – “And they found the stone rolled away from the tomb”
- **John 20:1b** – “...and saw the stone already taken away from the tomb.

John 20:2

2 So she [Mary Magdalene] 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.”

Meanwhile, Back at the Tomb

Luke 24:4-5a – “While they were perplexed about this, behold, two men suddenly stood near them in dazzling clothing; **5a** and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground”

Mark 16:5 – “Entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe; and they were amazed.”

Matthew 28:5-6

5 The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. **6** He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.

*** Parallel Passage in Mark 16:6**

Luke 24:5b-7

5b the men said to them, “Why do you seek the living One among the dead?” **6** He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, **7** saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.”

Matthew 28:7-8

7 “Go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead; and behold, He is going ahead of you into Galilee, there you will see Him; behold, I have told you.” **8**

And they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to report it to His disciples.

***Parallel Passage in Mark 16:7-8**

Notice Also:

- The very special word of invitation issued to Peter at this time, recorded in Mark 16:7 –

“But go, tell his disciples *and Peter*, ‘He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see Him, just as He told you.’”

The Women Then Depart

- There is nothing in the instruction of the angel to suggest that Jesus would not encounter any of these women before the encounter in Galilee; in fact, He did confront these women shortly after they departed the tomb.
- Evidently the meeting in Galilee was to be a very important and large meeting of the resurrected Jesus with a great company of His followers (Matt 28:16-20), and thus special and specific instructions concerning that meeting were issued at this time.



John 20:3-9

John 20:10

“So the disciples went away again to their own homes.”

Peter and John leave Mary Magdalene alone at the tomb, and she weeps.



John
20:11-12

“But Mary was standing outside the tomb weeping; and so, as she wept, she stooped and looked into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and one at the feet, where the body of Jesus had been lying.”

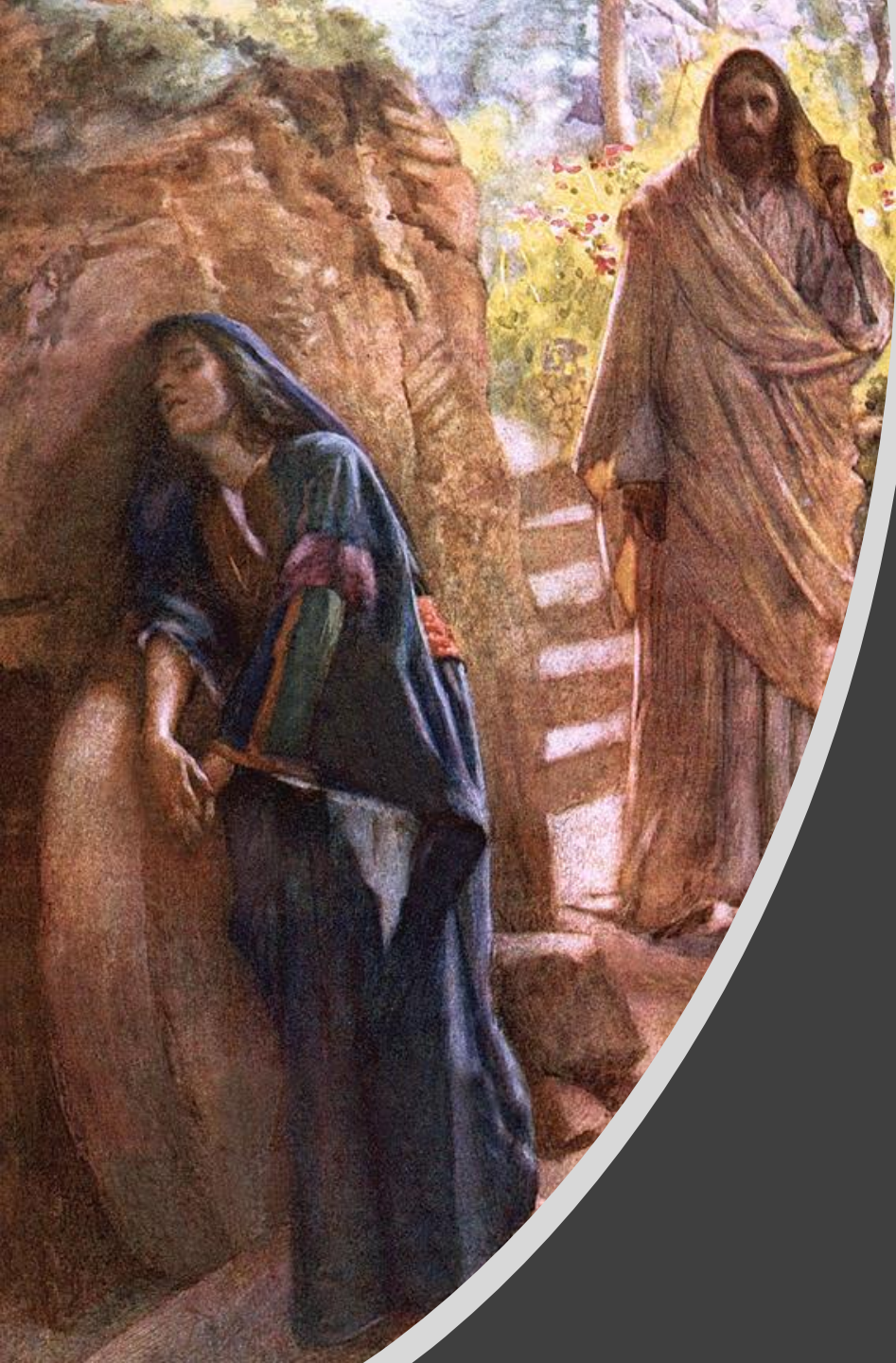
John 20:13

13 And 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.”

Acts 1:3

3 To these He also presented Himself alive after His suffering, by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over a period of forty days and speaking of the things concerning the kingdom of God.

He would appear 5 times on this day, and Scripture records 5 more appearances over the course of 40 days.



John
20:14-17
(Also Mark 16:9)

Jesus' Instruction to Mary

“Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father.”

I believe the point is that Jesus knew He would soon depart, and thus He was anxious for Mary not to become so fixated on His physical presence that she would again be devastated at His departure.

Matthew 28:9-10: The Women

9 And behold, Jesus met them and greeted them. And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. **10** Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and take word to My brethren to leave for Galilee, and there they will see Me.”

Luke 24:8-11

8 And they remembered His words, **9** and returned from the tomb and reported all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. **10** Now they were Mary Magdalene and Joanna and Mary the mother of James; also the other women with them were telling these things to the apostles. **11** But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them.

***Parallel Passages in Mark 16:10-11 & John 20:18**

The Women Report to the 11

And notice the reaction:

**“these words appeared to them as nonsense,
and they would not believe them.”**

The NT is absolutely clear in establishing the fact that those closest to Jesus, the eleven believing disciples, simply did not believe the prophecies of Jesus concerning His own resurrection.

Question:

How does this relate to the oft-revived (no pun intended) conspiracy theories concerning the resurrection of Jesus?

An illustration of a Roman soldier in profile, facing right. He is wearing a red cape over a dark tunic and a helmet with a red crest. He holds a long spear in his right hand. In the foreground, another soldier in similar attire is kneeling on the ground, holding his head with both hands. The background shows a rocky, uneven terrain with some green foliage on the left.

Meanwhile...

Matthew 28:11-15

Notice the Lie

**Which the Jewish authorities
instructed these eyewitnesses to
tell:**

**“You are to say, ‘His disciples
came by night and stole Him
away while we were asleep.’”**

Unbelievable & Unacceptable

- **Unbelievable** because the penalties for a Roman sentry who fell asleep at his post were so harsh that it would be absolutely incredible that the entire unit had committed this trespass, let alone that they had lived to tell about it, with the endorsement of their commanding officers.
- **Unacceptable** because the testimony of one who claimed to be an eyewitness to something which happened while he slept is ludicrous on the face of it!



Luke 24:12: A 2nd Trip

12 But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings only; and he went away to his home, marveling at what had happened.

In 1 Corinthians 15:5, Paul says:

**“that He appeared to Cephas,
then to the twelve”**

**While not recorded in Scripture,
I believe that appearance
occurred soon after Peter’s 2nd
trip to the tomb.**

Then in Luke 24:34

The Two Disciples on the Road to Emmaus rush back to Jerusalem that day to report their encounter, and say:

“The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon”

Can You Imagine?

It certainly must have been a poignant moment as the Lord whom Peter had denied so vociferously – only after insisting just as vociferously that his allegiance would be unswerving above that of all the other disciples – assured the apostle of His love and forgiveness, and of the fact that there remained a place of service for him.

Resurrection Day Appearances (So Far)

1. Mary Magdalene

- Mark 16:9-11; John 20:11-18

2. The Women

- Matthew 28:9-10

3. Simon Peter

- Luke 24:33-35; 1 Corinthians 15:5

**Christ will appear 2 more times on
this day of His Resurrection.**



Next Week:

**More
Infallible
Proofs!**

