

The Empty Tomb: He's Risen!

Scriptures: John 20:1-17; Text: John 20:18

April 17, 2022

I. The Empty Tomb!

Opening Story – He's Alive!

A. Mary Reports to the Disciple What She Had Observed [John 20:1-2]

- i. The stone had been removed from the entrance (v. 1)
- ii. They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we don't know where they have put him (v.2)
- iii. Life Applications

B. Peter and 'the Other Disciple' Went to Check the Tomb (John 20: 3-10)

- i. Both started the race to the tomb; John Outruns Peter, bends over and looks at the strips of linen; didn't go in (v. 3-5)
- ii. Peter enters and sees up close. He sees; Jesus' Grave Clothes lying there separate from strips of linen (v.6-7)
- iii. 'The Other Disciple' saw and believed (v.8)
- iv. They still didn't understand that Jesus had to be raised and returned to their place of stay (v. 10)

II. He has Risen: Jesus Appears to Mary (John 20:11-17)

A. Mary Cries and Continues to Seek Jesus and Finds Him (John 20:11-12)

- i. Mary stands outside the tomb, crying, and bent over to look, sees two angels; the angel questions, and she shares her concerns (v. 11-13)
- ii. Mary turned around but didn't recognize Jesus (v.14)
- iii. Jesus asked two questions, and Mary thought He was the gardener and pleaded her request (v.15)
- iv. The Conversation with the Risen Lord! (v. 16-17)
- v. Life Applications

B. Mary Reports to the Disciples (John 20:18)

- i. 'I have seen the Lord,' she said. (v.18a)
- ii. She shared to them all the things (v.17) that Jesus had said (v.18b)

III. **Conclusion:** The Tomb is Empty: He's Risen!

Context:

Mary returned with other women (Mary, mother of James and Salome) to the tomb because Jesus' burial was done on Friday in some haste. They wanted to contribute to Jesus' burial (Mark 16:1), and so they brought spices as soon as the Sabbath was over.

It could be that the women did not know the preparations that Joseph and Nicodemus had already done (19:20). Or, Nicodemus didn't have time on Friday to anoint Jesus ultimately bodily because he had a lot of spices, 75 pounds. It was very early in the morning, "still dark" (John 20:1).

On Friday, they laid Jesus on the burial preparation bench in the receiving room of the tomb chamber. The women thought they could return following the Sabbath, rolling back the stone and completing the burial, sliding Jesus' body into one of the tomb's sliding niches. Mary's early morning arrival misses the details seen later by Peter and John because it was still dark in the morning.

The purpose of the rolling stone is to open and close the stone along with the stone track access as other family members might be buried over the years. The synoptic gospels record the women's anxiety about who will help them move the heavy stone. When Mary finds out that the tomb door has been removed to one side, she immediately presumes that someone entered the tomb. The synoptic gospels tell us that the women stepped inside (Mark 16:5).

Questions:

1. How did Jesus' Tomb look like? Typically, Tomb back then has a _____ stone gate.
2. The Synoptic Gospels note that Jesus was laid in his own new _____.
3. Where did Mary Magdalene come from? Why did she love the Lord so much?
She came from the Galilean village of _____ Jesus had casted seven _____ out of her.
4. Why did Mary flee to report to the disciples? Because she saw that the tomb door was _____ away.
5. Who were the women that didn't say anything because they were afraid?
Refer to Mark 16:8 for the answer.
6. Who did you find not afraid among these women? Refer to Mark 16:1.
7. Jesus said, "Do not _____ on to me, for I have not yet _____ to the Father.
Go instead to my brothers and tell them, I am ascending to my Father, and your _____, to my God and your _____." (John 20:17, NIV).
8. Mary Magdalene went to the disciples with the news, "I have _____ the Lord! (John 20: 18a, NIV).