

JESUS BECOMES ALIVE AGAIN !

Matthew 27:62-66

62 Jesus died on Friday afternoon. The next day was Saturday, the Rest Day. The religious leaders went to Pilate – Pilate was the Roman governor in Jerusalem. 63 The religious leaders said to Pilate, “We remember what Jesus said. Before he died, Jesus said, ‘After three days I will become alive again.’”

64 The religious leaders said to Pilate, “You must guard the tomb for three days. Why? Because Jesus’ disciples might come to the tomb and steal Jesus’ body. And then the disciples will say to all the people, ‘Jesus is alive again.’ That will be very bad.”

65 Pilate answered the religious leaders, “Take soldiers. Go guard the tomb.” 66 So the religious leaders put soldiers in front of the tomb. And the religious leaders put a seal on the stone door of the tomb.

Matthew 28:1-15 / Mark 16:1-3

Matt. 28:1 The Rest Day was finished. At sunrise on Sunday, Mary Magdalene and other women walked to the tomb. Mk. 16:1 The women were carrying spices to put on Jesus’ body. 3 The women said to each other, “[The stone is very big.] Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb?”

Matt. 28:2 [Before the women got to the tomb] there was a very strong earthquake – because an angel from God came down from heaven. The angel went to the tomb. He rolled away the stone – and he sat on the stone.

3 The angel looked like lightning. His clothes were white like snow. 4 The soldiers were very afraid. So they shook. And the soldiers were like dead men.

5 [Then the women came to the tomb.] The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus. He died on the cross. 6 But look! Jesus is not here. He is alive again. 7 Go quickly and tell his disciples. 11 Then the women went to tell Jesus’ disciples.

Then the soldiers went into the city. They told the religious leaders everything. 12 The religious leaders made a plan. The religious leaders gave the soldiers much money. 13 The religious leaders said to the soldiers: You must tell a lie. You must say: “We were sleeping at night – and Jesus’ disciples came at night. The disciples stole Jesus’ body.”

15 So the soldiers took the money. They told everyone: The disciples stole Jesus body. So many people heard the soldiers’ story.

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

Mk. 16:9 After Jesus became alive again, Jesus first showed himself to Mary Magdalene. (Before he died, Jesus had thrown out seven bad spirits from Mary.)

Jn. 20:11 [Now] Mary stood outside the tomb. She was crying. Then she looked into the tomb – 12 and Mary saw two angels sitting in the tomb. Jesus body was not in the tomb. 13 The angels asked Mary, “Why are you crying?”

Mary said, “They took Jesus away – they took my Lord away. I don’t know where he is.” 14 Then Mary turned around. She saw Jesus standing there – but she did not know that it was Jesus. 15 She thought: He is the gardener.

Jesus said to Mary, “Why are you crying? Who are you looking for?” Mary answered, “Where did you put Jesus? Please tell me. I will go and get his body.”

16 Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

Then Mary cried out, “Teacher!” 17 Jesus said to Mary, “Do not hold on to me. Go tell my brothers – my disciples.”

18 Mary Magdalene went to Jesus’ disciples and said, “I have seen the Lord!” Mk. 16:11 But the disciples did not believe Mary – the disciples did not believe that Jesus was alive.

CONTENT QUESTIONS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What day did Jesus die? (Matthew 27:62)
- What did Jesus say (before he died)? (verse 63)
- What did the religious leaders ask Pilate to do? (verses 64)
- Why were the religious leaders worried? (verse 64)
 - What did the religious leaders think that Jesus' disciples would do?
 - What did the religious leaders think that the disciples would say?
- So what did the religious leaders do? (verse 66)

Why do you think the religious leaders put a seal on the tomb?

- When did Mary and the women go to the tomb? (Matthew 28:1)
- Why did Mary and the women go to the tomb? (Mark 16:1)
- Why were the women worried? What problem did they have? (verse 16:3)
- Who came down from heaven? (Matthew 28:2)
- What did the angel do? (verse 28:2)
- How did the soldiers feel? (verse 4)
- What did the angel tell the women about Jesus? (verse 6)
- What did the soldiers tell the religious leaders? (verse 11)

Did the soldiers tell the truth to the religious leaders?

- What did the religious leaders give to the soldiers? (verse 12)
- What did the religious leaders tell the soldiers to say? (verse 13)
- So what did the soldiers tell everyone about Jesus? (verse 15)

Who do you think was telling the truth? The angel or the soldiers?
Why do you think that?

- Who saw Jesus first? (Mark 16:9)
 - What had Jesus done for Mary? (verse 9)
- Where was Mary now? (John 10:11)
- Who did Mary see in the tomb? (verse 12)
- What was not in the tomb? (verse 12)
- Why was Mary crying? (verse 13)
- Who was standing behind Mary? (verse 14)
- Who did Mary think he was? Who did Mary think was standing behind her? (verse 15)

Why do you think Mary did not recognize Jesus?

Did Mary expect Jesus to be alive?

- When did Mary know that it was Jesus? (verse 16)

Why do you think Mary knew that it was Jesus? (verse 16)

How do you think Mary felt?

- Who are Jesus brothers? (verse 17)

How do you think Jesus felt about Mary and the disciples?

- What did Mary tell the disciples? (verse 18)
 - Did the disciples believe Mary? (Mark 16:11)

Why do you think the disciples did not believe?