

Mark Chapter 16

- This is a continuation of the narrative: Jesus has been crucified and died on the cross. Joseph of Arimathaea and Nicodemus have placed Him in an un-used tomb.
 - The chief priests and Pharisees with Pilate's approval sealed the tomb and set a guard about it – now it is the dawn of the 3rd day.
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V: 1 Timing: when the Sabbath was past.

Thursday Preparation day 1 st day in tomb	Friday Passover High Sabbath	Saturday Regular Passover 3 rd day in tomb	Sunday Resurrection day 1 st day of the week.
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- The players: Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome.
1. Mary Magdalene as vs: 9 points out was she of whom Jesus drove out 7 demons.
 2. Mary the mother of James, James the less and Joses or Jude – again meaning Mary the mother of Jesus.
 3. Salome: the mother of the Apostles James and John.
 - As devoted as they were, they were there for the wrong reasons. They weren't bringing Jesus a fresh change of clothes and breakfast; they were bringing spices to embalm his body.
 - Mary, the sister to Lazarus and Martha had it right, she'd already done what they were seeking to do.

V: 2 Early on the 1st day of the week, Sunday morning – resurrection Sunday.

Proverbs 8:17 “I love them that love Me; and those that seek Me early shall find Me.”

V: 3 Having previously seen where Jesus was laid, remembering the large stone rolled across the entrance – the practical question arises: how are we going to get in?

- Seemingly they were also oblivious to the Roman detachment guarding the tomb.

V: 4 Upon their arrival they see that the stone which was “very great” has been rolled away.

- The stone wasn't rolled away so Jesus could get out, He could go through walls; it was rolled away so we could see in.

- There is no mention of the Roman guard in this account which is very much a synopsis version.
- Mark is writing to a Roman audience and perhaps doesn't want to demean the Romans or it doesn't seem to be pertinent, but Matthew fills in some of the blanks.

Matthew 28:1-6 “¹In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulcher. ²And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. ³His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: ⁴And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. ⁵And the angel answered and said unto the women, fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. ⁶He is not here: for He is risen, and he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.”

- There's no mention in any of the Gospels of the women even taking note of the guards who are laying on the ground

V: 5-6 At the behest of the angel the women enter the tomb and observe that Jesus is not there.

Luke 2:9-10 “⁹And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. ¹⁰And the angel said unto them, fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.”

- When Jesus was born, the angels were there as witnesses, at that time they also had to tell the people not to fear.
- The angel tells them that “He is risen”.
- Matthew's account adds three important words: “as He said...”
- The resurrection of Jesus is obviously a hugely important component of our faith:

1 Corinthians 15:14 “And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain.”

1 Corinthians 15:5-8 “⁵And that He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve: ⁶after that, He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. ⁷After that, He was seen of James; then of all the apostles. ⁸And last of all He was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.”

- Because Jesus' resurrection is real, Paul goes on to write:

1 Corinthians 15:55 “Oh Death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?”

- His victory is our victory.

Hebrews 2:14-15 “¹⁴Inasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also Himself likewise took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

- Jesus’ resurrection is attributed to the power of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Father: Psalm 16:10 1 Corinthians 15:15 Hebrews 13:20

Son: John 2:19-21 John 10:17-18

Holy Spirit: Romans 8:11

V: 7 The women are commissioned: Go tell the disciples and Peter.

- Peter who dictated this Gospel pointedly appreciates his inclusion which leads to his restoration. Here again we see God’s character:

Exodus 34:6-7 “⁶... the Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, ⁷keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin...”

Micah 7:18 “Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage: he retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy.”

“As He said...”

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

V: 8 They went out quickly in obedience and went straight to the disciples.

V: 9 Begins a parenthetical re-telling of what occurred and we need to examine all 4 Gospels to put it together.

- Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene who had been in dire straits having been delivered from 7 demons, having her sanity restored, which is described in **John Ch. 20**.

Reconciliation of Gospel accounts regarding this event: composite picture.

1. Mary and the other women head off to the tomb early on Resurrection Sunday.
2. In her eagerness, Mary goes ahead of the other women.
3. Mary arrives, sees the stone rolled away and assumes that they've moved the body of Jesus to another location.
4. Without waiting for the other ladies, Mary takes off to report this to Peter, John, and the other disciples.
5. The other women arrive at the tomb. The ladies see the two angels who tell them that Jesus has risen and that they are to go and tell the disciples.
6. In the mean time Mary arrives where Peter and John are staying, tells them what has taken place, they take off to check it out.
7. Peter and John run to the tomb with Mary falling behind.
8. Peter and John inspect the tomb and leave.
9. Mary gets to the tomb not knowing that the other ladies had seen the angels and received instruction.
10. Mary sees the two angles, then Jesus as we read in the Gospel of John and mentioned here.

V: 10-11 The disciples are told, but they didn't believe.

- "mourned and wept" – after three days they are still overcome by grief – sobbing and weeping.

V: 12-13 Cleophas and another disciple on the road to Emmaus have an encounter with Jesus described in **Luke 24:13-35**. These two men then return to Jerusalem to the disciples, but aren't believed either.

Deuteronomy 19:15 "... at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established."

V: 14 Almost like the old saying, if you want it done right...

- Jesus "upbraided them" – to chide or reprove them, to find fault with.
- Peter is 0 for 2 and assuredly he feels it.

Jesus did the same thing with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus:

Luke 24:25 "O fools, and slow of heart to believe..."

Proverbs 27:6 "Faithful are the wounds of a friend,..."

- None of the other Gospels mention it quite like this:

1. Matthew doesn't speak of it at all – just that Jesus met the disciples and said “all hail” and directed the disciples to meet Him in Galilee.
2. Luke says that Jesus appeared in their midst and said “**peace be unto you.**” Then He seemingly seeks to calm them down.

Jesus does ask the question:

Luke 24:38 “**Why are ye troubled? And why do thoughts arise in your hearts?**”

3. John reiterates that Jesus appeared in their midst and said “peace be unto you.”
 - Jesus goes on to commission them and imparts or breathes the Holy Spirit unto them.
- Two points to the upbraiding: unbelief and hardness of heart.
- Then Jesus simply moves on.

V: 15 The great commission: Go to all the world, preach the Gospel to every creature!

- Dominion theology: NO! Calvinism: NO!
- Population demographics: over ½ of the people that have ever lived are alive today.

V: 16 He that believes shall be saved; which is often expressed through water baptism.

- Baptism: Public proclamation of faith, identifying with Jesus in His death, burial, and resurrection, it is also a simple act of obedience.

John 3:36 “**He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of god abideth on Him.**”

- Baptismal regeneration? No. There are about 150 verses in the NT that attest that salvation is by faith alone, not of works.
- The thief on the cross, the Gentiles at Cornelius' house were baptized after they were saved in Acts 10.
- Jesus Himself did not baptize (John 4:1-2) – which would be strange if baptism was required for salvation.

“**Saved**” (G 4982). sozo, sode'-zo; to save, i.e. deliver or protect, heal, preserve, save, to be (make) whole.

- This word speaks not just of “being saved” or “born again” but speaks also of the fullness of God's blessing in our lives.

- A person doesn't have to be baptized to be saved, but they are missing out on the fullness of God's blessing for them.

V: 17-18 As they go out sharing the Gospel, and as many have gone out since there have been many many awesome miracles recorded. Missionaries that were bitten by poisonous snakes with no effect, drinking putrid water with no effect, miracles of provision, of healing – all to the glory of God.

- Demons cast out, exercising the gifts of the spirit, miraculous healings.
- This is not a comprehensive list, just examples of what God might do.
- Some have abused these passages or misinterpreted them and sought to use these things as proof of salvation – which is not the case.

Matthew 4:7 “Jesus said unto him, it is written again, thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”

V: 19 The Lord ascended up to heaven and sat at the right hand of God the Father, which is where He is now.

Hebrews 7:25 “... seeing He ever liveth to make intercession for us.”

Ephesians 4:8-10 “⁸Wherefore he saith, when He ascended up on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. ⁹Now that He ascended, what is it but that He also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that He might fill all things.”

V: 20 In obedience to their call – out they went, with the Lord working with them, being empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Romans 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”